Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2923.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1883.

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EVENING LECTURES to WORKING MEN. EVENING LECTURES to WORKING MEN.—
NORMAL SCHOOL of SCIENCE and ROYAL SCHOOL of
MINES.—The First Course of the Session, consisting of SIX LECTURES
on 'The MINERALOGY of our STREETS, by Mr. F. RUTLEY,
F.G.S., will be delivered at the Museum of Practical Geology in
FIGURE of the Street of the Street of the Street of the Street
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STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

NEWMARCH MEMORIAL ESSAY.

The sum of 100i. has been placed at the disposal of the Council of the Sanistical Society by Mr. H. D. Pochin for an Essay in Memory of the late Mr. W. Newmarch F.R. S. 'On the Extent to which Recent Legislation is in Accordance with, or Deviates from, the True Principles of Economic Science; and showing the Permanent Effects which may be expected to arise from such Legislation.

The Council accordingly invite Public Competition for the Prize show mentions he gard in one of the Prize there mentions he gard in one of the Prize the Prize the Prize that the Council accordingly invite Public Competition for the Prize there are the Prize the Prize that the Prize the Prize

hove mentioned. Emays must be sent in on or before May 1, 1884. Further particulars may be obtained from the Assistant Secretary, at the Office of the Society, King's College entrance, Strand, London. W.C.

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY GARDENS.

REGENT'S PARK.
FIXTURES FOR 1884.
EXHIBITION of SPRING FLOWERS, WEDNESDAYS, March 26th, pril 23rd. SUMMER PLANTS, FLOWERS, and FRUIT, WEDNESDAYS, BUMBER FLANTE, FRONTESTAY, July 2nd.
EVENING FETE, WEDNESDAY, July 2nd.
FROMENADES on all the other WEDNESDAYS in May, June, and

July.

BOTANICAL LECTURES, FRIDAYS in May and June.

THE SHORTHAND SOCIETY.—THIRD SES1810N.—Opening Lecture by THOMAS ALLEN REED, President,
Subject. 'SHORTHAND as a MEANS of MENTAL DISCIPLINE.'
WEDNESDAY, November 7th, 1883, at 8 r., at 5. Chancer-lane (drst
floor), W.C. All interested in Shorthand will be welcomed.
44, Imperial-buildings, Ludgate-circus, E.C.

M U S I C A L A S S O C I A T I O N,
On MONDAY NEXT, November 5, at 5 o'clock, a Paper will be read
by U, J. FROST, Esq., Mus. Doc. Cantab., 'On Theoretical Study as an
Assistance to Execution.' JAMES HIGGS, Hon. Sec. pro. tem.

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of Mr. Wade, next Town Hall, Kensington.

The Bishop of Exeter, previoling at a Lecture, October 18th, said:—
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CO	NTE.	NTS.				
						PAGE
MISS THACKERAY'S NEW			***	***	***	559
VICTOR HUGO ON THE CH.		L ISLA	NDS	***	***	561
DOBSON'S OLD-WORLD LYE	ICS	***	***	***	***	562
THE BLACK PRINCE	***	***	***	***	***	534
NOVELS OF THE WEEK	***	***	***	***	***	565
LIST OF NEW BOOKS	***	***	***	***	***	566
THE BECKFORD LIBRARY;	THE	NEW "	CART	ULAR	IUM';	
BROWNING BIBLIOGRAP	HY;	THE I	CARLY	ENG	LISH	
TEXT SOCIETY'S EDIT	TON	OF 'I	BEOWU	LF';	THE	
LUTHER EXHIBITION;	SHA	KSPEA	RE'S N	IONU:	MENT	
AND GRAVESTONE	***	***	***	***	566-	-568
LITERARY GOSSIP	***	***	***	***	***	569
SCIENCE-LIBRARY TABLE;	ANT	HROPO	LOGICA	L No	TES;	
ASTRONOMICAL NOTES;	MEE	TINGS ;	Goss	IP	570-	-572
FINE ARTS-CROWE AND CA	VAL	CASELL	E ON I	RAPH	AEL:	
ART FOR THE DRAW	ING-	ROOM;	THE	FR	ENCH	
GALLERY; GOSSIP	***	***	***	***	572-	-574
MUSIC-WEEK; GOSSIP	***	***	***	***	575-	-576
DRAMA-WEEK; GOSSIP	***	***	***	***	***	576

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From the Blue Mountains or Ontario's lake play the part of the famous New Zealander in moralizing over the ruins of London. It was then that the Quarterly Review (Southey, we are afraid, was the culprit) spoke of Mrs. Barbauld, who had been a widow for some three years, as "this fatidical spinster."

But, sibyls or no sibyls, the four women of Miss Thackeray's selection are well worthy to be recalled to memory, and our chief regret is that this book is so slight and sketchy. There is little or no new material, and the only account which is at all adequate is that of Miss Edgeworth.

As for Mrs. Barbauld's life, it has been twice written at length within the last few years, once by Mrs. Ellis and again by Mrs. Le Breton. Mr. Murch, of Bath, also has given an account of Mrs. Barbauld and her contemporaries, and in Mrs. Le Breton's 'Memories of Seventy Years' there are further reminiscences. Miss

Thackeray's twice-told tale was hardly likely to tell us anything that was new. We all know how Nancy Aikin, afterwards to be known as Anna Leetitia Barbauld, went with her father from Kibworth to Warrington when Dr. Aikin was appointed a tutor at the newly formed Dissenting academy. Miss Thackeray gives a short sketch of this academy, but she soon falls into an awkward blunder. She informs us that "among the masters were to be found the well-known names of Dr. Doddridge" and others. Now as Dr. Doddridge died in 1751 and the academy was only started in 1757, we fear this "well-known name" is hardly to be found. On the other hand, the names of Reinhold Forster, the eminent naturalist, and of William Enfield, the author of 'The Speaker,' might have been added to the list

Miss Aikin had reached the age of thirty before she published her first volume of poems, and she at once achieved a great success. Her next experiment was any-thing but successful. She married a young Frenchman, Rochemont Barbauld, who had been one of the academy students. He was half insane when she married him, and after years of anxiety she had to leave him altogether, as her own life was in danger from him. And yet she had had many other admirers, and many other innocent love passages. There was Mr. Haynes, the rich Kibworth farmer, from whose importunities she only escaped by climbing up a tree and letting herself down into the lane beyond. There was John Howard, the philanthropist, of whom she wrote in after life: "It was too late, as you say, or I believe I should have been in love with Mr. Howard." was Archibald Hamilton Rowan, then a student, afterwards the Irish rebel, who used to say that Lætitia Aikin was his first love. Then there is an unprinted acrostic of hers to another of the students, which is certainly very affectionate, and which ends :-

Happy the youth who these initials claims, Thrice happy she who his affections gains.

And besides these personal experiences, she had published a curious 'Map of the Land of Matrimony,' of which her recent biographers make no mention. It is a wonderful production. There are "Fort Constancy" and "Honeymoon Island," past which "L'Amour River" runs; but there are also "Syrens' Island" ("many ships wrecked here"), and other places of still more evil name and reputation.

Yet with all this precocious knowledge she made the most unhappy choice; the motto on her map was in her case true enough—"Un aveugle fait le choix." if her life was not to be happy, it was at least a life of high courage and true nobility. In spite of everything, she loved her husband, and grieved sadly when at last he drowned himself in a fit of insanity. She had been his faithful companion for years-had helped him with his school and in his duties as a Dissenting minister. She still wrote at times, had many warm friends, and the latter part of her life found her at least peaceful and content. Every one who came near her learned to respect and love her. If those who never really knew her, like Horace Walpole or Southey or De Quincey, said spiteful things, she had as many warm admirers when an old lady as

she had lovers in those Warrington days Lord Denman, whom she had taught when a child, always expressed his admiration for her (by-the-by, why does Miss Thackeray make the droll mistake of calling him Lord Chancellor Denman?). In later years Coleridge made ill-natured remarks about her, but in earlier days, before he had changed his opinions and deserted his old friends, he wrote in an unpublished letter:—

"The more I see of Mrs. Barbauld the more I admire her,—that wonderful propriety of mind! She has great acuteness, very great; yet how steadily she keeps it within the bounds of practical reason! This I almost envy as well as admire."

Rogers, Macaulay, Mackintosh, Sir Walter Scott, Sir Henry Holland, and many others have spoken enthusiastically of her. Words-worth put Mrs. Barbauld at the head of English poetesses. Madame D'Arblay said that she repeated the beautiful lines on 'Life' "every night before I go to sleep." Walter Savage Landor, Mr. Murch has told us, once spoke of her in his presence "as the first writer of the day, and became so eloquent in praise of some of her poems that he fixed the attention of the entire Such strong testimony to Mrs. Barbauld's literary merits might easily be added to, and Miss Thackeray seems hardly to do her justice. She more than implies that in these days her "modest performances" would have received less attention than when they first appeared; and, of course, if poets are now to be judged merely by their mass and volume, Miss Thackeray may not be wrong. But on the other hand it may be doubted whether any other English poetess, with the exception of Mrs. Browning, has reached so high a water-mark as has Mrs. Barbauld in the majestic roll of her 'Address to the Deity' and the pathetic murmur of the ode to 'Life.' The old-world grace which hangs round many of her essays and the simple beauty of her 'Hymns in Prose' have still their admirers, and the man of letters who enjoys the one, or the child who learns the other off by heart, will not soon forget the name of Mrs. Barbauld.

Miss Edgeworth is the next "sibyl" of Miss Thackeray's group, and is certainly the least sibyl-like, except as regards matrimony, of all the four. She and Mrs. Barbauld were for years firm friends, but at one time there was a certain break in their friendship. They had begun with a sort of "l'amie inconnue" correspondence, but when Miss Edgeworth came to London she was lionized to a degree which made it impossible for her to give much time to the friend in the suburban home. Mrs. Barbauld was hurt, and the letters ceased. However, thanks to Mrs. Joanna Baillie, peace was again restored and the correspondence began

once more.

We have said that this sketch of Miss Edgeworth is the least inadequate of the series, and Miss Thackeray has had access to Mrs. Edgeworth's privately printed memoir, but it is far from perfect. The story of Mr. Edgeworth and his wives, of the Sneyds, of Mr. Day and the Lichfield literati, has been so often told that it did not require repeating. On the other hand, a very little research would have added to our knowledge of Maria Edgeworth herself and of the impression she made on others. The reader

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would gladly have known more of her life in Ireland, more of her visits to London, more details of her literary work. Perhaps the accounts of her journeys abroad are the freshest parts of this sketch, and we wish we had more of them. We wish, too, that more particulars had been given of Mr. Ticknor's visit to Edgeworthstown (not Edgeworthtown), and Miss Thackeray might have found another most interesting account buried away in the cumbrous life of Sir Rowland Hill. She would have discovered a most delightful story of a dinner at the Edgeworths', and how, when the ladies had gone, the rest sat drinking toasts till midnight, when Mr. Edgeworth made them walk to see his "Assisting School"; then the unfortunate master was called out of bed and obliged to sing songs for them; and finally the wonderful old gentleman ordered a beefsteak supper (it was two o'clock), and insisted on their all drinking to the memory of his

butler's grandmother.

Miss Thackeray has a theory that there was a certain likeness-not "very deep". between Maria Edgeworth and Charlotte Brontë. To us it seems scarcely skin-deep. They were both short little women who wrote popular novels, and that is about all the resemblance. The quality of their writings was not more different than the texture of their minds or the way they impressed those they met. What Charlotte Brontë was we all remember. Of Maria Edgeworth there are always the pleasantest reminiscences. Sydney Smith says: "Miss Edgeworth was delightful-so clever and sensible! She does not say witty things, but there is such a perfume of wit runs through all her conversation as makes it very brilliant." Mr. Ticknor writes: "Miss Edgeworth's conversation was always ready, and as full of vivacity and variety as I can imagine. It was, too, no less full of good nature." And this was the universal

testimony.

Turning now for a moment to her writings, we are glad to find how heartily Miss Thackeray appreciates her books for children, especially the "Parent's Assistant." They were certainly excellent in their way, and though the charge has been brought against Miss Edgeworth that she appeals rather to moral than to religious motives, we doubt whether any child has not been the better for these delightful stories. Rowland Hill was once asked what book had chiefly formed his character, and he replied that he thought he owed most to Miss Edgeworth's stories, which he read over and over again when he was nine years old, "and resolved in those early days to be like the characters in her stories and to do something for the world." It is amusing to think of the penny post as the legitimate issue of Miss Edgeworth's training. Of the more important novels the best will always hold their own from their mingled shrewdness and humour, their really valuable scenes of Irish life, and a certain freshness which makes them still delightful. They seem to have won their way from the very beginning, and if there was some little hostile criticism, well then, as Burke said (Mr. Murch has reminded us of it), "in defence of Miss Edgeworth ten thousand pens would start from their inkstands." Miss Thackeray says: "It is always characteristic to watch a

writer's progress in the estimation of critics and reviewers"; and she contrasts a name-less review of 1809, where "Miss Edgeworth is modestly and respectfully noticed," with an enthusiastic one of some three years later. This criticism of the critics is hardly fair. 'The Absentee' is a distinctly finer novel than 'Ennui,' the best story in the first series of tales, and yet it is of 'Ennui' that Jeffrey in the Edinburgh of July, 1809, says: "A story more rich in character, incident, and reflection than any English narrative which we can now call to remembrance; as rapid and various as the best tales of Voltaire." Is not this praise enough for Miss Thackeray? With all our own regard for Miss Edgeworth, it is rather too much for us.

Mrs. Opie is the third on Miss Thackeray's list, and as a woman Mrs. Opie must have been the most charming of them all. She exerted a fascination wherever she went. She was extremely pretty, she was gay and animated, and she sang well. She was the daughter of Dr. Alderson, of Norwich, and in Harriet Martineau's Biographical Sketches' there is an account of her early surroundings which is very pleasant. She then married Opie the painter, an excellent man, but somewhat rough. Mrs. Le Breton, in her 'Memories of Seventy Years,' tells some characteristic stories of their married

"Once at a morning party where Mrs. Opie was charming her guests by her singing, he put his head in at the door with 'Amelia, don't sing; I cannot paint if you do,' and she immediately obeyed. He would put her down flatly if he obeyed. He would put her down harry in acthought her in any way inaccurate, as she sometimes was. There had been a discussion as to the river Waveney—its length and depth—Mrs. Opie exclaiming at length, 'Well, I am sure it would come up to a man's chin.' 'Perhaps it might,' or manded her hushand. 'if he stood on his head.' growled her husband, 'if he stood on his head.'

However, they seem to have been happy enough together, and he was constantly introducing her sweet, animated face into his pictures and encouraging her at her literary work. Some little time after her husband's death it occurred to her that she would like to marry Joseph John Gurney, the wellknown Quaker philanthropist; but it was no use setting her cap at him unless it were a Quaker cap, and so she incontinently became a Quakeress. The sacrifice was heroic, but unfortunately it was futile. Joseph John married somebody else, and she remained Mrs. Opie. But, after all, she gave up as little as she could. If she wore a Quaker dress, she took care that it should be of the most exquisite material. If she gave up certain pomps and vanities, her lighthearted nature belied the solemn cap. Indeed, there seemed to be an added piquancy in her beauty, and in his 'Feast Violets' Leigh Hunt says that Phœbus

threw round her a light of such love As turned her slate hues to the neck of the dove.

But with her passed away all-the personal charm and grace—that made her so attractive and seemed for the moment to give her literary fame. It is now absolutely impossible to understand—and Miss Thackeray is here quite just-how Mrs. Opie should have had such a reputation for her stories. They are barely third-rate, and no one could now read them with the slightest

interest. Even Tom Moore, who would wish to be in the fashion in everything, writes: "Began one of Mrs. Opie's new tales to Bessy in the evening, but found it impracticable"; and again, three days later: "Began another of Mrs. Opie's tales to Bessy in the evening; something better, but dull enough." But Mrs. Opie also wrote poems, which Miss Thackeray tells us were much admired, and one of them, quoted by Sydney Smith, Miss Thackeray thinks "indeed charming." We are sorry that we cannot agree with her. It is a song addressed by a young lady to a "dear youth" who has jilted her, but still she implores him to "forget me not," unless, indeed,

the thought of my distress Too painful to thy feelings be;

and then follow the lines which we suppose are particularly admired :-

But, oh! if grief thy steps attend, If want, if sickness be thy lot, And thou require a soothing friend, Forget me not, forget me not.

On the whole, we prefer anything Haynes Bayly ever wrote.

But the most celebrated of Mrs. Opie's poems was 'The Orphan Boy's Tale.' This intelligent orphan explains to a philanthropic lady how his father was killed at the battle of the Nile, and how, shortly after, "they've tolled my mother's knell"; and then, with an eye to business (and the lines are worth quoting as showing what people once pretended to admire), the crafty child winds up:

Oh! were I by your bounty fed! Nay, gentle lady, do not chide-Trust me, I mean to earn my bread; The sailor's orphan boy has pride,
Lady, you weep! ha? this to me?
You'll give me clothing, food, employ?
Look down, dear parents! look and see Your happy, happy orphan boy!

We like Miss Thackeray's concluding sketch of Miss Austen the least of any. It is not only very short, but there is a great deal of writing round the subject instead of about it, which much diminishes its interest. At the same time there is comparatively little to tell about Jane Austen, and Mr. Austen Leigh's memoir remains the only authority of importance. She was a sweet, modest, sensible woman who lived a retired life and died at the age of forty-two. But, unlike Mrs. Opie, her works live after her. Her characters are as alive as when she first created them, and the various virtues of her heroines are discussed as eagerly now as ever. Miss Martineau, who was never very lavish of praise, called her "the queen of novelists," and Walter Scott spoke of "the exquisite touch" which was denied to him. But of all her admirers, Macaulay was probably the most devoted, and in his letters to his sisters he was for ever quoting Miss Austen: "As John Thorpe says, 'Novels! Oh Lord! I never read novels. I have something else to do'"; or again, "I begin, like Sir Walter Elliot, to rate all my acquaintance according to their beauty." And so Miss Austen, if herself less known to us than are others, is at least the mother of some of our best friends, and for their sake, if for no other, we love and honour her.

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L'Archipel de la Manche. Par Victor Hugo. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

So long as Victor Hugo's name lasts it cannot fail to be associated with the Channel Islands. Hence the personal interest attaching to this book dominates all other interest. Such passages as the following are what the reader naturally turns to, and reads and re-reads with sympathy:—

"Il y a dix ou douze ans, un français, débarqué depuis peu à Guernesey, rôdait sur une des grèves de l'ouest, seul, triste, amer, songeant à la patrie perdue. A Paris, on flâne; à Guernesey, on rôde. Cette île lui apparaissait lugubre. La brume couvrait tout, la côte sonnait sous la vague, la mer faisait sur les rochers d'immenses décharges d'écume, le ciel était hostile et noir. On était pourtant au printemps; mais le printemps de la mer a un nom farouche, il s'appelle équinoxe. Il est plus volontiers ouragan que zéphyr, et l'on pourrait citer un jour de mai où l'écume, sous ce souffle, a sauté vingt pieds au-dessus de la pointe du mât de signal qui est sur la plus haute plate-forme du château Cornet. Ce français avait le sentiment qu'il était en Angleterre; il ne savait pas un mot d'anglais; il voyait un vieil Union-jack, déchiré par le vent, flotter sur une tour ruinée au bout d'un cap désert; deux ou trois chaumières étaient là; au loin tout était sable, bruyère, lande, ajoncs épineux; quelques batteries rasantes, à larges embrasures, montraient leurs angles; les pierres taillées par l'homme avaient la même tristesse que les rochers maniés par la mer; le français sentait poindre en lui cet épaississement du deuil intérieur qui commence la nostalgie; il regardait, il écoutait; pas un rayon; des cormorans en chasse, des nuages en fuite; partout sur l'horizon une pesanteur de plomb; un vaste rideau livide tombant du zénith; le spectre du spleen dans le linceul des tempêtes; rien nulle part qui ressemblât à la patrie; le français songeait, de plus en plus assombri; tout à coup il releva la tête; une voix sortait d'une des chaumières entr'ouvertes, une voix claire, fraîche, délicate, une voix d'enfant, et cette voix chantait:

La clef des champs, la clef des bois, La clef des amourettes!"

M. Hugo seems to have suffered with uncommon severity from nostalgia. Nostalgia is stronger in a Frenchman than it is in an Englishman, and perhaps this is the cause of the very different histories of England and France; perhaps it is the reason why, while the English language seems destined to be spoken at no distant date over half the globe, French (as an illustrious Frenchman has lamented) is doomed to become the language of France alone. An Englishman banished to the loveliest archipelago in Europe, with his own native shores in sight and surrounded by every comfort and every luxury, including the constant society of his family and a friend so loving and so rarely endowed as M. Vacquerie, would have made himself tolerably comfortable, especially when the retirement gave him such facilities for work as no other condition of things could have afforded. An Englishman has for home almost the entire habitable globe; and this may be the source of England's unique power, for the truth seems to be that nostalgia has had more to do with retarding the growth of races, while freedom from nostalgia has had more to do with the development of races, than any other cause.

Composed during the stay at Guernsey, these notes are intended, we believe,

for a preface to a new edition of 'Les Travailleurs de la Mer.' In such a connexion they will be entirely in place. The only question is whether it was well to issue them separately. Powerfully as they are written, it cannot be said that as a book on the Channel Islands they are satisfactory. To call before the reader's eyes a clear picture of this lovely archipelago there were required other forces than those for which M. Hugo is at present distinguished. As a descriptive writer in prose his powers culminated long ago; he has been distinctly retrograding in the art of depicting scenery ever since he wrote 'Notre Dame de Paris.' And the same may be said of him generally as a master of prose. One of the fundamental distinctions between prose and poetry is that prose must never, or very rarely, "shout." Ratiocination, apparent or real, must be the basis upon which all prose, howsoever impassioned, is based. If a man feels impelled to break through these conditions —if he feels impelled to shout—verse is the proper medium for that particular kind of exercise. A misapprehension of the nature of prose and poetry in this particular has been at the bottom of almost all the vicious prose of contemporary France. Not that contemporary England is impeccable in this matter. We need only instance such prose as that of Carlyle's 'Latter-Day Pamphlets,' wherein he apostrophizes those "immensities," "eternities," and "abysses" which he discovered, and the contemplation of which disturbed his digestion and distressed his wife. For, although Goethe (according to Friedrich von Müller) was in the habit of speaking of Carlyle's "calm, delicate spirit of apprehension, ness was only perceptible to a Teutonic vision: to English readers it was certainly Carlyle's shouting that was the special attraction. None the less it was a vice, and the practice is not to be recommended to young writers. But with regard to Victor Hugo, it was his irresistible desire to be more emphatic than any man has a right to be in such a world as this-it was his desire to shout in so loud a voice that all other shouters should be silenced-which impelled him to adopt the style coupé in its most exaggerated form. The shorter you make your sentences the more easily can they be shouted. But this has spoilt his prose style. Tacitus carried the style coupé quite far enough. But when, as in Victor Hugo and in certain of Victor Hugo's imitators, the reader finds sentences constructed without verbs, he feels that he has been defrauded: these sentences, in fact, are as organically imperfect as the winged cherubs upon tombstones; however great they may be in the matter of face and feathers, they have nothing to sit down upon. All this, however, is merely saying that Victor Hugo's poetry is greater than his prose. He is a born poet, if ever there was one.

The following is a good example of the vigorous and suggestive writing to be found in this volume:—

"La mer édifie et démolit ; et l'homme aide la mer, non à bâtir, mais à détruire. De toutes les dents du temps, celle qui travaille le plus, c'est la pioche de l'homme. L'homme est un rongeur. Tout sous lui se modifie et s'altère, soit pour le mieux, soit pour le pire. Ici il défigure, là il transfigure. La brèche de Roland n'est pas si fabuleuse qu'elle en a l'air; l'entaille de l'homme est sur la nature. La balafre du travail humain est visible sur l'œuvre divine. Il semble que l'homme soit chargé d'une certaine quantité d'achèvement. Il approprie la création à l'humanité. Telle est sa fonction. Il en a l'audace; on pourrait presque dire, l'impiété. La collaboration est parfois offensante. L'homme, ce vivant à brève échéance, ce perpétuel mourant, entreprend l'infini. A tous les flux et reflux de la nature, à l'élément qui veut communiquer avec l'élément, aux phénomènes ambiants, à la vaste navigation des forces dans les profondeurs, l'homme signifie son blocus. Il dit lui aussi son l'u n'iras pas plus loin. Il a sa convenance, et il faut que l'univers l'accepte. N'a-t-il pas d'ailleurs un univers à lui l' ll entend en faire ce que bon lui semble. Un univers est une matière première. Le monde, œuvre de Dieu, est le canevas de l'homme. Tout borne l'homme, mais rien ne l'arrête. Il réplique à la limite par l'enjambée. L'impossible est une frontière toujours reculante."

To write about and about a thing-to make it the subject of epigrams, however brilliant, and gnomes, however profoundis this the same thing as depicting it? It is a good deal better than depicting it if the epigrams and gnomes are Hugo's, the Hugolatre will say; but Victor Hugo seems to think that it does the same work as description. Here we think he is mistaken. Even in the descriptive portions of 'Notre Dame de Paris,' although the artist's instinct for imitating nature was apparent, and although the actual power of graphic presentment disclosed in some of those passages was of a very high order,—even there the egotism of the mere literary phrase-maker the impulse to coin epigrams, to find startling and clever analogies-is constantly marring his pictures — pictures which are still, however (and notwithstanding this fault), dazzling in their lurid power. And this volubility, this restless quest of literary ornamentation, has been growing upon him year by year, until at length (in prose at least) his yest forces are a backed in proceeding the control of the c his vast forces are absorbed in ransacking the physical and moral worlds for the symbols and analogues and parallels which the scene suggests to his own active and vigorous mind, rather than in bringing the scene before the eye of the reader. That such a method is fatal to narrative art is obvious enough, for in telling a story it is imperative not only that the literary habit or trick of parallel should be kept down, but even that bare descriptions—descriptions in which no such literary tinsel occurs-should seem, as in Homer and Chaucer, for instance they always seem, inevitable and half unconscious. Each description, in short, should be so introduced that it seems to be brought in as part and parcel of the dramatic movement itself, and never for its own sake. And whenever description is so introduced the scenery itself rises before the reader's imagination with a rises before the reader's imagination with a sharpness of outline, a vigour of colour, which no amount of detailed description can ever achieve. Take, for instance, such descriptive touches as light up the Border ballads, or Chaucer's picture of the "gnotty, gnarry trees old" in the 'Knight's Tale,' or that famous description in 'Wuthering Heights' of the summer and winter woods through which the church halls are woods, through which the church bells are stilled or heard according to the thickness or thinness of the foliage; or take, again, the

allusion in the 'Golden Ass' of Apuleius to the atrium of Byrrhæna. In each of these cases, and especially in the last, how the picture leaps before the reader's eyes, simply because the artist's apparent unconsciousness that he is painting a picture lends the picture that very authenticity which the mere word-painter lacks. On the contrary, in 'Les Travailleurs de la Mer' the descriptions of the sea and of the rock scenery of the Channel Islands, and especially all the magniloquent writing about the winds (fine and brilliant as it is), become wearisome to the reader's imagination. The story seems to the labouring reader thrice its actual length, because the descriptions are there on their own account. And now we come to our impeachment of this book. If this habit of writing about scenery, symbolizing it and ornamenting it with epigrams instead of depicting it, is damaging to a narrative, it is surely still more so in a book which has a kind of topographical pretension. The very raison d'être of a book of this kind is accurate imitation of nature. Around 'Le Rhin' M. Hugo threw an imaginative glamour. In this volume there is nothing of that kind. Yet, though the atmosphere is not imaginative, as in parts of 'Le Rhin,' but entirely realistic, the Channel Islands are not called up before the reader's mental vision. Even in a topo-graphical sketch sincerity is the soul of literature. Without sincerity, indeed, literature in no form can live. When of an entire group of islands the topographer tells that they are "on one side gracious, on the other terrific"; that "they have smiling interiors, to be reached by harsh and churlish approaches,"—when he offers us antitheses instead of pictures, we feel that although these antitheses may be true, they are nevertheless to be accepted with caution, as coming from a witness not in earnest; we feel that we are in the hands, not of a faithful and reverent worshipper of nature to whom truth of description is a sacred thing, but of the mere literary artist, who, like the Eastern magician, can see nature best through his own medium, that is to say, when reflected in a mirror of ink. A man whose first object is to fashion brilliant sayings about the compatibilité des extrêmes finds mere nature uninteresting without that "accentuation" which, according to M. Arsène Houssaye, art alone can give her. Without Parisian accent what is nature? A dumb mother to the truly French soul.

In depicting the inhabitants of the Channel Islands M. Hugo is, as might have been expected, more successful than in depicting nature, though even here, perhaps, the success is only partial. Compared with the representative art of the true dramatist, Hugo's art is always like that of the glassstainer as compared with the art of the painter. Colours more brilliant than those of Titian and Rossetti the glass-stainer can give us; fulness of dramatic action such as Rubens would hardly have found room for in his widest canvases he (the glass-stainer) will boldly crowd into a single narrow window; he can overwhelm us with his gorgeousness; he can so dazzle us with his splendid show that the painter's art beside his is as "unluminous" as the mere earth and ocean when compared with "the fiery cloudland of ruby foam" from which, according to the Kalmuck priests, the spirits

of the air fashioned this humdrum world. But then the "fiery cloudland" had maintained its chaotic existence at the sacrifice of everything the spirits of the air held dear—at the sacrifice of the principle of life, for instance. And the glass-stainer maintains his existence at the sacrifice of everything the painter holds dear. In place of the freedom and sweet abandonment which is nature's own charm, and which the painter strives after, the glass-stainer is obliged by the imperious conditions of his art to give hard lines and conventional waves; in place of the soft gradations of tone in which nature delights, and which the painter can achieve, the glassstainer gives us splendour as luminous as that of the rainbow, but splendour in patches and stripes and bars. This, we say, is always Victor Hugo's method in prose. In his romances it is undoubtedly effective, but in books like this and 'Le Rhin,' which claim a realistic value, it is destructive of all veri-

The Channel Islands have received much attention of late years. They have been described by two of Hugo's most ardent admirers, M. Vacquerie and Mr. Swinburne. M. Vacquerie's account, in 'Profiles et Grimaces,' of his visit to Sark in the company of M. Hugo is one of the most charming productions of that admirable writer, while Mr. Swinburne's poem 'The Garden of Cymodoce' is in his finest style. Those who have had the good fortune to swim into the Gouliot caverns at Sark, and on reaching suddenly the inner cave have been dazzled by the splendours of that marvellous sea-hall, the walls of which, covered with sea-anemones of every hue, seem to be ornamented with all the gems of sea and land, must have read with delight the English poet's lines:

But afloat and afar in the darkness a tremulous colour subsides

From the crimson high crest of the purple-peaked roof to the soft-coloured sides

That brighten as ever they widen till downward the level is won
Of the soundless and colourless water that knows

not the sense of the sun:
From the crown of the culminant arch to the

floor of the lakelet abloom,
One infinite blossom of blossoms innumerable aflush

through the gloom.

All under the deeps of the darkness are glimmering;
all over impends

An immeasurable infinite flower of the dark that dilates and descends,
That exults and expands in its breathless and blind

efflorescence of heart
As it broadens and bows to the wave-ward, and

breathes not, and hearkens apart.

As a beaker inverse at a feast on Olympus, ex-

hausted of wine, But inlaid as with rose from the lips of Dione that

left it divine:
From the lips everliving of laughter and love everlasting, that leave

In the cleft of his heart who shall kiss them a snake to corrode it and cleave.

So glimmers the gloom into glory, the glory recoils

into gloom,

That the eye of the sun could not kindle, the lip

not of Love could relume.

So darkens reverted the cup that the kiss of her mouth set on fire:

So blackens a brand in his eyeshot asmoulder awhile from the pyre.

For the beam from beneath and without it re-

For the beam from beneath and without it refrangent again from the wave Strikes up through the portal a ghostly reverse on

the dome of the cave,

On the depth of the dome ever darkling and dim to

the crown of its arc:
That the sun-coloured tapestry, sunless for ever,
may soften the dark,

But within through the side-seen archway aglimmer again from the right

Is the seal of the sea's tide set on the mouth of the mystery of night.

And the seal on the seventh day breaks but a little,

that man may behold
What the sun hath not looked on, the stars of the
night have not seen from of old.

Old - World Idylls. By Austin Dobson. (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)

'OLD-WORLD IDYLLS' is a good title for the selection which Mr. Dobson has made, chiefly from his 'Vignettes in Rhyme' and his 'Proverbs in Porcelain,' volumes being now out of print. It is true that certain of these poems have very little of the old world about them, breathing as they do the spirit of a muse distinctly modern. It is also true that this book bears but few evidences of that feeling for the past which consecrates whatever time makes grey, and becomes, as Schiller says, a religion. It is not because Mr. Dobson's work contemplates bygone things with love and reverence that it is fittingly designated, but because at its best it recreates the atmosphere in which habits of thought and life once existed, but exist no longer, and lives in that atmosphere as unconsciously as if it had been born there, and is subject alike to its bracing gladsomeness and its epidemical contagion. It is not at all diffi-cult to put a finger on the old world to which Mr. Dobson's idyls belong. It dates from 1650 to 1720, and ranges from Abraham Cowley to Matthew Prior. It bears affinities to the somewhat earlier world of Lovelace, Randolph, Shirley, and Carew, as well as to the somewhat later one of Gay, Tickell, and Atterbury. It is by no means a great old world either in compass or character. It witnesses no stern upheavings; it has known the sudden eclipse of a revolution that had itself known a tardy dawn; and now, resting a while from the fatigue of a stirring epoch, it threatens to stagnate socially, politically, and religiously. But these conditions, while obviously unfavourable to the development of the highest kind of poetic genius, are often highly conducive to the growth of that familiar talent which rarely aspires to be sublime and is always content to be acute. And the old world of these idyls, if it fails of greatness, is at least bright and sparkling. We have spoken of the bracing gladsomeness and the epidemical contagion of the atmosphere in which Mr. Dobson's best poems live. Both qualities belonged to the poetry of the Restoration. The salutary one found vent in its epicureanism, even in its delicate pensiveness, in its mercurial sportiveness, most of all in its peculiar note of jocular solemnity. The pestilence of that poetry lay in its love of point-a passion that lent itself to all manner of affected turns, to the neglect of thought, to the neglect of imagery, to the neglect of nearly every rich and noble effect—in a word, to the neglect of the essential spirit which makes all the difference between the "poetic temper" and the "prose temper," whatever the familiarity of numbers in the one and the pomp of phrase in the other. The poetry of the Restoration had amplitude of language, but it was not the language of imagination, and therefore it was not in the best sense the

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language of poetry. It was language full of melody, eminent in easy turns, without languor, with an instinct for facile classical touches; it was language that sparkled and crackled, but it was not language that moved the passions. And Mr. Dobson's work, so far as it is true to the old world whence it gets its "vital heat," resembles the poetry of the Restoration at once in these excellences and these defects. It has the same sportiveness, the same jocular solemnity, even, let us say, a suspicion of the same epicureanism; and together with these it has the same leve of point and subordination of purely poetical qualities to intellectual acuteness. But Mr. Dobson is no mere acuteness. imitator of models, however rare or difficult to follow. The writers of the latter half of the seventeenth century, who were very sensible of the peculiarity of temper that separated them from the writers of an earlier era, had an unambiguous method of disparaging one another. When a rival developed in an unusual degree the sportive vein in which it was their highest ambition to excel, they were apt to say that he was a better wit than poet. To use both terms in that earlier sense, we would say that Mr. Dobson is a better poet than wit; and in proof of this statement let us glance at a poem in which that love of point and paradox which is seen at its highest, perhaps, in Prior, struggles with the simple pathos which not only neglects, but ignores facile turns, and is seen at its best in the serious verses of Hood :-

THE PARADOX OF TIME. Time goes, you say? Ah no! Alas, Time stays, ne go; Or else, were this not so, What need to chain the hours, For Youth were always ours? Time goes, you say ?-ah no! Ours is the eyes' deceit Of men whose flying feet Lead through some landscape low; We pass, and think we see The earth's fixed surface flee :-Alas, Time stays,-we go ! Once in the days of old. Your locks were curling gold, And mine had shamed the crow, Now, in the self-same stage, We 've reached the silver age Time goes, you say ?-ah no! Once, when my voice was strong,
I filled the woods with song
To praise your "rose" and "snow";
My bird, that sang, is dead;
Where are your rece fled? Where are your roses fled? Alas, Time stays,-we go! See, in what traversed ways, What backward Fate delays The hopes we used to know: Where are our old desires ?-Ah, where those vanished fires? Time goes, you say ?-ah no ! How far, how far, O Sweet, The pass behind our feet Lies in the even-glow! Now, on the forward way, Let us fold hands, and pray;

Alas, Time stays,— $n\bar{c}$  go!

That the nineteenth century gets the better of the seventeenth in this poem few readers will doubt. If Mr. Dobson has a distinction, it is that with the power of perceiving sublimity or beauty or pathos or joy in familiar things (which is the inheritance of English poets later than Wordsworth), he combines an unusual degree of appreciation of the pith and force of Cowley and Prior. Every writer of vers de société

shares with him in some measure these characteristics; for, if analyzed, the species of composition known by that name will be found to consist of no other component parts. Of course, this is not to say that either constituent alone is not immeasurably greater than the modern compound at its best. There was a subtlety, and occasionally even a metaphysical profundity, in the poetry of the Restoration which we may only too easily overlook where so much acuteness is on the surface, and which modern poets have never yet united to so much lucidity and easy grace. It would not be difficult to cite a score of passages from Prior or Suckling or Herrick or Shirley illustrative of this characteristic of underlying force, but the following from Cowley's 'Life and Fame' may serve as an instance of what we mean :-

Tis true, the two immortal syllables remain;
But oh, ye learned men! explain
What essence, what existence, this,
What substance, what subsistence, what hypostasis,
In six poor letters is!
In those alone does the great Cæsar live,
Tis all the conquer'd world could give.
We poets, madder yet than all,
With a refin'd fantastic vanity,
Think we not only have, but give, eternity.
Fain would I see that prodigal
Who his to-morrow would bestow
For all old Homer's life, e'er since he died, till now!

It is easy to pick holes in a passage like this; to say that the "poets, madder yet than all," are tugged in for the sake of the sting in the last line, and that it is conceivable the entire poem grew backwards from the epigram; but, if Mr. Dobson will allow Cowley's masterly verses to receive elucidation from his own, we will quote 'The Ballad of Prose and Rhyme' as an example of what the modern writer does when he is "at charges" for a similar expedient:—

When the ways are heavy with mire and rut, In November fogs, in December snows, When the North Wind howls, and the doors are shut.—

There is place and enough for the pains of prose; But whenever a scent from the whitethorn blows, And the jasmine-stars at the casement climb, And a Rosalind-face at the lattice shows, Then hey!—for the ripple of laughing rhyme! When the brain gets dry as an empty nut,

When the reason stands on its squarest toes,
When the mind (like a beard) has a "formal cut,"—
There is place and enough for the pains of prose;
But whenever the May-blood stirs and glows,
And the young year draws to the "golden prime,"
And Sir Romeo sticks in his ear a rose,—

Then hey!—for the ripple of laughing rhyme!

In a theme where the thoughts have a pedant-strut,
In a changing quarrel of "Ayes" and "Noes,"
In a starched procession of "If" and "But,"—
There is place and enough for the pains of prose;

There is place and enough for the pains of prose; But whenever a soft glance softer grows And the light hours dance to the trysting-time, And the secret is told "that no one knows,"— Then hey!—for the ripple of laughing rhyme!

ENVOY.

In the work-a-day world,—for its needs and woes,
There is place and enough for the pains of prose;
But whenever the May-bells clash and chime,
Then hey!—for the ripple of laughing rhyme!

In this poem, unlike Cowley's, the point and paradox are on the surface, and the acute turns are verbal. More than this, they are driven too far; they are present in every line. A Restoration poet could have grasped no more firmly than Mr. Dobson the essential difference between prose and verse which leaves the one exclusively the language of the intellect and the other of the affections. Edmund Waller could not have realized

this difference with more beautiful and correct symbol than Mr. Dobson has employed in his opening stanza; but Waller would have stopped short at contrast of symbol, and would not have busied himself throughout the remaining stanzas with mere antitheses of phrase. In the last line or two he would have sparkled and crackled with some such verbal effects, but there only would he have done so. His modern imitators, the poets of Mayfair, seem to think that the jocular vein cannot be carried too far, and so they spoil the whole for the sake of the parts. Hence their work, so far as it exhibits this defect, is not "in style."

An age in which the dominant literary passion was the love of acuteness could hardly exhibit a great range of poetic feel-ing; but between the author of "Go, lovely rose," and the author of 'The Triumph of Unthankfulness' there were many varieties of tone and semi-tone. And Mr. Dobson's book has been conceived in three distinct moods of poetic feeling. The first of these is the mood in which the poem produced owes nothing to its subject, in which the subject is hardly more essential to the poem than to the song of the thrush is the bough on which the bird sits to sing. It is a mood in which the spirit of song gives out gladsome music that is in itself the be-all and the end-all of the thing produced: a mood in which presentment is first, and substance hardly an operative factor - in which a poem is not, certainly, a lyric outpouring of joy altogether vacant of meaning, but in which meaning is no more than a passive basis such as the pebbly bed is to the music of the stream. The great masters of this mood were of course the English poets of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. They knew best how to give themselves up to the sheer luxury of words, chasing them for their own sakes, and always at the end, when they had brought them to bay, closing with a half-articulate cry or the jingle of some merry sounds from external nature which had not otherwise been interpreted. Instance the wonderful winter song "When icicles hang by the wall," with its

Tu-whit, tu-whoo!
A merry note
While greasy Joan doth keel the pot;
or "Sigh no more, ladies," with "Hey nonny,
nonny"; or, best of all,

Tell me where is fancy bred.

Of this mood of poetic feeling—a genuine if not very lofty mood—Mr. Dobson's book bears many evidences, and not the least noticeable of the pretty things thrown off under its influence is this triolet:—

Rose kissed me to-day.
Will she kiss me to-morrow?
Let it be as it may,
Rose kissed me to-day.
But the pleasure gives way
To a savour of sorrow;—
Rose kissed me to-day—
Will she kiss me to-morrow?

The second of the three moods of feeling in which we find Mr. Dobson's best poetry conceived appears to be the exact opposite of that just described, for it is the mood in which a poem owes everything to its subject, and is best when it owes nothing to its vehicle—at least nothing that can be felt, nothing that is capable of drawing off attention to itself. A simple, strong human passion is the basis of a poem con-

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ceived in this mood, and it is sweetest and subtlest if tumultuous action has already spent itself upon it, and it is seized as it hangs for an instant at poise above a moving incident in that most dramatic of atmospheres, the atmosphere of temporary repose. Here emotion is everything, words are all but nothing, and the poet's aim is so to cast forward the one that the other shall hardly seem to be present. Perhaps the most perfect example of a poem in which the presentment, though faultless and marvellously beautiful in itself, is so charmingly subordinated to the substance as hardly to seem to exist at all, is Coleridge's 'Love': and if to the perfection of vehicle in that poem there were added the depth of sub-dued passion that is seen in Hood's 'Bridge of Sighs,' we should have, probably, a flawless product of the mood to which both poems belong. The work which Mr. Dobson has done in this vein seems to us to be by much his best, and to be by far the most likely to survive. 'The Sick Man and the Birds' reaches, perhaps, the poet's highest point, and nothing is better than its close :-

ÆGROTUS.

My hope hath lost its wing.
Thou, that to Night dost call,
How hast thou heart to sing
Thy tears made musical?

PHILOMELA.

Alas for me! a dry desire

Is all my song,—a waste of fire

That will not fade nor fail;

To me, dim shapes of ancient crime

Moan through the windy ways of time,

"Wail! wail!"

ÆGROTUS.
This is the sick man's song,—
Mournful, in sooth, and fit;
Unrest that cries, "How long!"—
And the Night answers it,

Simpler, more familiar, more homely in substance, but hardly less touching in pathos, are 'Before the Curtain,' 'The Forgotten Grave,' 'The Sundial,' 'My Landlady,' and 'An Unfinished Song.' 'Before Sedan,' which is a subject offering excellent material for a poem in the mood in which it is composed, is certainly disappointing. The first four stanzas are good, and the last stanza is the best; but the intermediate lines in which the child's letter is described, instead of given, allow nearly all the tenderness to evaporate. Mr. Dobson should rewrite these lines and give them his most delicate touch.

The last of the three moods of feeling in which we find Mr. Dobson's poetry conceived can hardly need further definition, for it is that mixed mood which we have described as the source of much of the minstrelsy of Mayfair. It may be called a capping of the Cervantic with the Rabelaisian spirit; but familiar as are its manifestations, its elements are not easily analyzed. It is a salutary check upon excesses both in sentiment and persiflage, yet it is not parody, or caricature, or burlesque, or travesty. It is essentially a modern compound, yet it may be found to perfection in Habington's song which begins,

Fine young Folly, tho' you were, and ends.

Bedlam! this is pretty sport.

And, again, it is to be seen in Lovelace's Why dost thou say I am forsworn?

Mr. Dobson's best things done in this mood are, perhaps, 'Dorothy,' 'A Virtuoso,'

'The Misogynist,' 'Tu Quoque,' and 'An Autumn Idyll.' We have not left ourselves space to touch upon some of the glimpses of old-world character which Mr. Dobson gives in his 'Ballad of Beau Brocade,' and in his 'Gentleman of the Old School' and Gentlewoman of the Old School.' Much might be said on the style of these poems, apart from all regard for their mood and substance. That Mr. Dobson's work is not always "in style," in the higher sense of that phrase, we have had occasion to say, and it could be shown that, in the lower sense of the word, style is not always the characteristic of his metrical presentment. But that Mr. Dobson is capable of a vigorous moulding and kneading of words in novel forms many passages in these poems prove. It were scarcely too much to say that there are few writers now living who can give us a more sweeping and varied movement than is seen in this last stanza of 'The Story of Rosina':

As for Rosina,—for the quiet sleeper,
Whether stone hides her, or the happy grass,
If the sun quickens, if the dews beweep her,
Laid in the Madeleine or Montparnasse,
Nothing we know,—but that her heart is cold,
Poor beating heart! And so the story 's told.

Le Prince Noir: Poëme du Héraut Chandos. Edited, with Translation and Notes, by Francisque Michel. (Fotheringham.)

CHANDOS HERALD'S poem on the Black Prince may be said to have had exceptional good luck among its lass, for it has been twice edited, and both times in sumptuous form and with great care. The first issue was that produced by the late Mr. H. O. Coxe for the Roxburghe Club forty years ago; the second is before us. In it M. Francisque Michel acknowledges that he has incorporated the introduction and notes of his predecessor, adding, however, to them much new matter. With regard to the translation and text he claims greater originality; and here, at least, his merit must be allowed, though not without a certain amount of censure. No one who examines the Roxburghe edition can doubt that the text as given there is extremely corrupt and the translation anything but exact. The late librarian of the Bodleian did too many services to literature and endeared himself too much to all who knew him for any one to speak of him without respect and affection. But we are driven on examining his translation of this poem to conclude that at the time of making it his knowledge of old French was not quite equal to the task. Thus in one passage,

Et Chandos et Audelee Qui bien feroient de l'espée,

he has confused faire and férir, thereby not giving the right rendering, "struck." Elsewhere he translates "danser et chasier et voler," "dance and run and fly," instead of "dance and hunt and hawk." Yet, again, for "de traire et de launcier" (to shoot arrows and thrust with lances), the eccentric rendering "insults and outcries" appears in the Roxburghe copy. Therefore a new translation could hardly be thought unnecessary, supposing any translation to be required in the case of a book which, corrupt as was its text, was for the most part very easy reading. But the text which M. Francisque Michel here presents is rather a

puzzle, because it is presented without any apparatus criticus. He cites as his model the well-known and extremely ingenious reconstruction of 'Macaire' by Guessard. It has, however, often been felt and shown that there were grave objections to Guessard's process even in the case of such a wonderful macaronic jargon as that in which 'Macaire' is written. Here the text, though ill copied and corrupt, is simply very fair foreigner's French of a good period, and its exact form is of some interest. The comparison of the Roxburghe text (which M. Michel seems to admit to be a faithful transcript of the MS.) and of the new one lands the reader in many uncertainties. For instance, in the fourth line (ed. Coxe) there is the word amenceneur. This is an unknown word, though amence and amencer do occur. Mr. Coxe "rushed" it gallantly, and translated ascun amenceneur "no falsifier, which unluckily falsifies the sense of ascun, and manufactures one for amenceneur. M. Michel's reading amenteveur, "recorder," makes good French and good sense; but what is the exact MS. form? Yet once more. In the passage already cited as to hunting and hawking, it is described how the persons who indulged therein were damsels, "très amoureuse, frike" (Mr. Coxe translates "happy" and M. Michel "frisky," but it is clearly nothing but "fresh," the stock English epithet for girls) "et bele"; and then it reads, without interval, "fassoit en regne d'Artus." Both translators give "as in the reign of Arthur," which, of course, makes sense, but blinks the entire absence of anything which in French can signify "as." Now if we had the exact MS. reading it might be possible to discern in it something which would give us this.

This drawback is inseparable from an edition which, indulging in conjectural emendations, does not at the same time give the materials of conjecture. But when it has been fairly noticed nothing but praise for M. Francisque Michel's work remains. The explanatory notes, especially of a genealogical kind, which were already good in Coxe, have been much enlarged and increased by M. Michel, whose special familiarity with the history of Bordeaux in its English days makes him one of the best men living for the purpose. Something should perhaps be said (since the book, though open for many years to the frequenters of great libraries, has not been venal on the shelves of the ordinary bookseller) as to its contents and intrinsic merit. It has already been frequently consulted by English historians, and if we are not mistaken it furnished some material to Miss Yonge for her picturesque and not untrustworthy treatment of this period in 'The Lances of Lynwood' and in several of her "Cameos." The author, of whom nothing is known except that he is mentioned by Froissart as herald to Sir John Chandos, has complied with the requirements of modern accuracy rather more closely than is usual with the mediæval chronicler. His account of the Spanish expedition, if not specially poetical, is the extremely minute and in all probability absolutely trustworthy report of a competent eye-witness. But of the prince's earlier life he gives only a condensed and evidently second-hand history, while the less brilliant

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period of Edward's illness and death is also much abbreviated. The writer has a real enthusiasm for his hero, and, although he can hardly be credited with great literary talent, the picturesqueness of the language he uses (the only one, perhaps, in which metrical chronicles are not dull) and the stirring character of the facts recorded make his book thoroughly readable. Of the manner in which it has been produced by Mr. Fotheringham we can speak very highly. There are very few misprints, which, taken in conjunction with the appearance of the type, would show, even without the imprint of a Dieppe printer, that it was executed at a foreign press. But they are of no great importance; and in size, type, paper, and binding it hardly yields to the original Roxburghe issue. Indeed, the only falling off in sumptuousness is that the page of facsimile given in both is in the earlier issue decked out with coloured initials. It should perhaps be noticed that the numbering of the lines is very different in the two, and that if M. Michel has explained this we have overlooked the explanation.

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Geoffrey Stirling. By Mrs. Leith Adams. 3 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)
Only an Actress. By Edith S. Drewry.
3 vols. (White & Co.)
Thy Name is Truth. 3 vols. (Maxwell.)
Peeress and Player. By Florence Marryat.
3 vols. (White & Co.)
The Right Sort. By Mrs. Edward Kennard.
3 vols. (Remington & Co.)
Mon Frère Yves. Par Pierre Loti. (Paris,

Calmann Lévy.)

Mrs. Adams's new story is marked by a good deal of dramatic power. Hester Devenant, the relentless avenger of her husband's death, with her passion in which affection has little part, is more like a Frenchwoman of the revolutionary type than her hysterical husband is like a Frenchman. She is a powerful and original figure, though one has somewhat too much of her. Hilda, her daughter, who is also too constantly in a state of moral tension, has much that is touching and interesting in her composition, though we confess her reiteration of the drivelling "mothie" for "mother" spoils the force of her most pathetic utterances. Geoffrey himself is a rather impossible villain who "burgles his own bank" after a fashion lately made the subject of a drawing in one of the comic periodicals, robbing his neighbours in the most thoroughly sweeping way, in order to acquire greater riches for an only son. The rustic dialogues at the Safe Retreat public-house do not ring very true, the dialect being no pure English form; and the selection of surnames (most of which are Scotch) adds to the unreality of the local colouring.

Bohemia is a region that seems to possess a peculiar fascination for lady novelists, but it is a difficult country to describe unless you have been there. The scenes which Miss Drewry lays in gambling saloons and green-rooms are as unreal as her descriptions of street-Arab life, which she evidently knows at first hand, are excellent. She reproduces the changing dialect of the street Arabs in its latest form with unusual fidelity. The incident on which her plot turns is

borrowed, as the author acknowledges, from Edgar Poe's 'Purloined Letter,' and the use of it justifies the loan. The interest of the three volumes is mainly a plotinterest and reveals considerable invention, but the characters are sketchy and want elaboration. Miss Drewry does not seem to realize the essential difference between the trick of sketching people to which the society papers have accustomed us, and the difficult art of making a character present itself. It is difficult to admire the hero, Mr. Castlewood. His rare generosity consists in turning out a street Arab, to whom curiosity has moved him to give a night's shelter, as a matter of course in the morning, to fall back into that life the account of which justly horrified him. And he makes a dubious proposal to the lady with whom he is in love. The plot is ingenious, but there are too many ramifications in it, and the incidents are extravagant. But if we agree with Pascal, "Comme il n'y a rien d'im-possible, croyons dans l'absurde," and grant this to the author, it is exciting enough; only she does not possess the power of investing improbabilities with an air of probability. The career of the heroine is an index to the story; she is successively a street Arab, a police agent in London and Paris, the star of a gambling saloon, a great actress, and a great heiress with the suspicion of the bar sinister. Miss Drewry has a provoking way of misusing the word "metaphysical," not uncommon with lady writers. It is not pedantic to ask that words should not be taken out of their proper meaning just because, unfortunately for themselves, they happen to be long.

Though marred by the writer's lack of

experience, 'Thy Name is Truth' is a clever specimen of a sensation novel. The author has considerable powers of constructing a story, and though her devices are a little hackneyed, and the veteran novel-reader will easily detect at the beginning of the third volume what is to be the upshot, she has produced an effective tale which will interest many readers. She has warm sympathy, too, with the best points of the Irish character, and states the case of the tenant farmer, and also the views of the more moderate Liberals who are opposed to the Nationalist party, with considerable force. The best characters in her book are the hero, the young Dublin reporter, and the Nationalist M.P.; but in the delineation of character she has not at present much skill. Her women are all angels, and her men are also too good for ordinary life. Her parish priest especially is devoid of any human veakness such as would make him a possible personage. In this point, however, she will no doubt improve, and the book shows ability enough to lead one to hope that this may not be her last novel. The speciality, if we may say so, of the book is the author's acquaintance with the working of a daily newspaper. The account is lifelike and obviously based on personal knowledge; nor is it very hazardous to identify The News with the Freeman's Journal.

Miss Florence Marryat believes that a mysterious affinity exists between people of certain temperaments, and that they have the power of acting physically, as it were, on each other in critical moments, though actually far apart. Whatever may be

thought of such ideas, the author has used her machinery with some skill and sufficient reserve. But the incident of Mrs. Jarrod's prediction of her future step-daughter's fate from the cards is not so satisfactory, and, like most people who forecast the future, Mrs. Jarrod's spiritual vision is blind as to her own destiny. Miss Marryat always writes well about children, and the story of Susie's early days is pleasantly and humorously told. Miss Prescott, who adopts the child to save her from following the wicked career of her mother the actress, is the centre of a circle of old maids of unblemished reputation who live within the cathedral close of Malisbury.

Nothing male ever intrudes upon the virginity of Precentor's Court except the muffin man and the persistent cat who "will after kind." But it is here that Susie meets the source of all her troubles, the rival whose fate is so mysteriously bound up with hers, in the wayward Magdalena, in whose veins mingle the placid blood of a pedantic dean and that of a convenient but im-probable "Popish Italian princess." The scenes laid in the provincial theatres are real and clever, but Susie's lover Lord Luton is an unsatisfactory hero. Most of the minor tragedies of life originate, it is true, in unnecessary misunderstandings, but a very little tact and sympathy would have enabled Lord Luton to remove the misunderstanding between him and his wife. And inexperienced as she was, she would hardly have poured her heart out to the first benevolentlooking old lady she met in a wood.

Young sportsmen may possibly be satisfied with Mrs. Kennard's book, inasmuch as it is principally occupied with fairly lifelike descriptions of hunting runs and their incidents. From a literary point of view "most of we," to use the author's odd expression, will desiderate a plainer style and a little more grammar. What does this mean?—

"Widows, even the most fascinating, are a dangerous class, besides which a man does wrong to place himself in a position where comparisons are sure to be drawn, and generally to his disadvantage. A second husband is a striking exception to the adage, 'Les absens ont toujours tout' [sic]. The dead cannot rise up to disprove facts and contradict statements, and for this reason—No. 1, once safely under the sod, is invariably right, and No. 2 invariably wrong. Therefore I have no fancy for becoming No. 2, however much I esteem the lady. I am too chivalrous by nature to desire to do the defunct Col. Forrester's memory so much injury."

This remarkable piece of reasoning is put into the mouth of an Irishman, but apparently without malicious intention. The lady in question, Mrs. Forrester, belongs "to the energetic order of beings who do not allow the grass to grow under its feet." She is, in fact, a shrewd horsedealer, whose tongue does a good deal of mischief in the course of the courtship of Miss Kate Brewser (one of the Highland Brewsers!) and Mr. Jack Clinker, of equally remarkable pedigree.

The unfortunate ex-lieutenant in the French navy, just dismissed for his letter to the Figuro describing the conduct of the French sailors at Hué, in his 'Frère Yves' shows himself the same dreamy writer who was already known to us through his 'Mariage de Loti.' There is in his new volume,

which describes the life of a British manof-war's man, none of the vigeur which marked some pages of the 'Roman d'un Spahi' of the same author.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS. ENGLISH.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Arthur (W.) On the Difference between Physical and Moral Law, the Fernley Lectures of 1883, 8vo. 3/ cl.

Blaikie's (W. G-) The Public Ministry and Pastoral Methods of our Lord, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Corpus Christi, Manual of Devotion for the Blessed Sacrament, with Preface by Rev. H. M. Villiers, 32mo. 2/ cl.

Farrar's (Ven. Archdeacon) The Atomement, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Goulburn's (E. M.) Thoughts upon the Gospels for Bundays, one for Each Day in the Year, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 16/ cl.

Hall's (Rev. N.) The Lord's Prayer, 8vo 10/6 cl.

Hall's (Rev. N.) The Lord's Prayer, 8vo 10/6 cl.

Harrand (S.) Studies in the Christian Evidences, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Prize Sermons on the Sabbath, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

Prize Sermons on the Sabbath, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

Pusey's (Rev. E. B.) Private Prayers, edited, with a Preface, by H. P. Liddon, 32mo. 2/6 cl.

Bleigh's (A.) From Dawn to Perfect Day, 8vo. 7/6 cl.

Wright's (G. H. B.) The Book of Job, a New Critically Revised Translation, 8vo. 6/ cl.

Young's (R.) Light in the Lands of Darkness, a Record of Missionary Labour, cr. 8vo. 8 Cl. Law.

Law.

Amos's (S.) History and Principles of the Civil Law of Rome, 8vo. 16/cl. Pratt's (Major S. C.) Military Law, its Procedure and Practice, 12mo. 4/6 cl.

Carroll's (J.) Second Grade Test Papers: Freehand, 2/ packet.
Eastlake's (Lady) Five Great Painters, Essays reprinted
from the Edinburgh and Quarterly Reviews, 2 vols. 16/
Morris's (L.) Songe Unsung, 12mo. 6/cl.
Poe's (E. M.) The Raven, illus. by Doré, with a Commentary
by E. C. Stedman, folio, 63/cl.
Robinson Crusoe, with Engravings from Designs by Stothard,
8vo. 15/cl.

Poetry.

Birthday Book of American Poets, with 13 Portraits, edited by A. L. Hayward, 18mo. 3½ cl.

Ingoldsby's (T.) Ye Jackdaw of Rheims, folio, 6/ bds.

History and Biography.

History and Biography.

Berkley's (E.) The Pharaohs and the People, Scenes of Old Egyptian Life and History, illus. cr. 8vo. 5/cl.

McGavin (W.), the Merchant Evangelist, Memoir of, by Rev. Wm. Reid, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

Motley's (J. L.) Rise of Dutch Republic, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 15/ Raleigh (A.), Records of his Life, edited by Mary Raleigh, new edition, fcap. 8vo. 3/6 cl.

Whittier (J. G.), a Biography, by F. H. Underwood, 10/6 cl.

Wraxall's Historical and Posthumous Memoirs, 1772-1784, edited by H. B. Wheatley, 5 vols. 8vo. 60/cl.

Geography and Travel,

Handbook of the Panjab, Western Rajpatana, Kashmir, and Upper Sindh, 8vo. 15/cl.

Upper Sindh, 8vo. 15/ct.

Philology.

Æschyli Fabulæ curante F. A. Paley, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Cleero's De Finibus Bonorum et Malorum, by J. S. Reid,
Vol. 3, Translation, 8/cl.
Ciceronis (M. T.) De Natura Deorum, Libri Tres, with Introduction, &c., by J. B. Mayor, Vol. 2, 8vo. 12/6 cl.
Dunbar's (H.) Complete Concordance to the Comcedia and
Fragmenta of Aristophanes, 4to. 21/cl.
Raven's (Rev. J. H.) Latin Grammar and Junior Scholarship
Papers, 12mo. 1/6 cl.
Thompson's (F. E.) Syntax of Attic Greek, 1, 8vo. 8/6 cl.
Xenophon's Cyropedia, Books 4 and 5, wit Introduction
and Notes by C. Bigg, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
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Science

Carroll's (J.) Second Grade Test Papers : Practical Geometry,

oblong 4to. 2/ packet.

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Stokes's (G. G.) Mathematical and Physical Papers, Vol. 2, 15/
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General Literature.

An Older Form of the Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an Angle (1480), 7/6 half-Roxburghe.

Bickers's 3/6 Gilt-Books: Nelson's Life, by Southey; Cook's Voyages, by Dr. Klippis; The Vicar of Wakefield, by Goldsmith; Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare, cr. 8vo. cl.

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Morton (Mrs. G. E.) and Hankey's (Miss A.) Addresses and Stories for Mothers' Meetings, imp. 16mo. 3/6 cl.
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Thackeray (W. M.), Complete Works of, Standard Edition, Vol. 2: Vanity Earl, Vol. 2, 8vo. 10/6 cl.
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#### FOREIGN.

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Köstlin (J.): Die Septemberbiel, das Neue Testament,
Deutsch v. M. Luther, 60m.

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J. Müller, 2m. 80.

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F. Ruscheweyh, 2m. 80.
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u. Max I., Vol. 1, 13m.

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Nitzsch (K. W.): Geschichte d. Deutschen Volkes im 11 u.

12 Jahrh., 2 vols. 14m. 40.

Weber (H.): Das Verhältniss Englands zu Rom, 1237-1241,

3m.

Canagal Literature.

General Literature. Mahalin (P.): Le Fils de Porthos, 2 vols. 7fr. Malot (H.): Les Besoigneux, 2 vols. 6fr.

#### THE BECKFORD LIBRARY.

THE fourth and final portion of the magnificent library of "Vathek" will be offered for sale by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge on Tuesday, the 27th of November, and the three days following. Amongst the rarities are: Vair, Livre des Charmes, from the library of Louis XIII. and Anne of Austria, bound by Ruette; the first edition of Valturius de Re Militari, with its beautiful woodcuts; Van Ælst, Architecture, in Grolier binding; Vasari, Vite de' Pittori, the dedication copy to the King of Sardinia, on large paper, of the Roman edition, 1759-60; Vertot, Histoire des Chevaliers de Malte, on large paper, bound by Ruette for the Duc d'Orléans; Verdizotti, Favole, bound by Clovis Eve, with monograms of Henry III. and Louise de Lorraine; Vetancourt, Teatro Mexicano; Vico, Imagini, printed on vellum; Vieilleville, Memoires, on large paper, from the library of Madame de Pompadour; Vigilles des Mors, printed by Verard on vellum; Vimont, Relation printed by Verard on Venum; Vimone, Relation de la Nouvelle France; Vinci, Della Pittura, printed on vellum; Vinciolo, Pourtraicts pour Lingerie; Walton's Compleat Angler, first edition; Weever's Funeral Monuments, on large paper; Whitney's Emblemes; Wilson's Catalogue of an Amateur, author's own copy on large paper; Weeriot, Pinax Iconicus; Androuet Du Cerceaux, Bastiments de la France; Blake's Book of Thel, Urizen, and Marriage of Heaven and Hell; Breviarium Romanum, printed by Jenson on vellum; Collins's Harley Family, illustrated by Vertue; Corrozet, Tapisserie;

Decor Puellarum, printed by Jenson, a good specimen of Monnier's binding, from the library of Girardot de Prefond; Deserpz, Recueil des Habits; Fulvii Illustrium Imagines, printed on vellum, presented to George, Duke of Saxony, by the famous John Eckius, with his autograph inscription; Korobanoff, Museum; L'Estoille, Journals de Henri III. et IV., with the Cartons, Journals de Henri III. et IV., with the Cartons, bound by Derome; Montfaucon, L'Antiquité expliquée et les Monumens de la Monarchie Françoise, on large paper, bound by Padeloup, with arms of Madame de Pompadour in gold on the sides; Ubilla y Medina, Viages del Rey Phelipe V., dedication copy to that monarch; and various books from the libraries of Louis XIV., De Thou, Count Hoym, Girardot de Prefond, Marquis de Menars, Innocenzo Conti, Due de Praslin, Seguier, and other eminent collectors, in superb bindings by Everninent collectors. eminent collectors, in superb bindings by Eve. Ruette, Padeloup, Boyet, Derome, Kalthœber, Baumgarten, Hering, Lewis, Clarke, Bedford,

Catalogues of the Hamilton Library are preparing and will be shortly issued.

#### THE NEW 'CARTULARIUM.'

I am unaware that a new edition of Kemble's 'Codex Diplomaticus' is, as Mr. Hessels believes, "in preparation by the London Society of Antiquaries," and have reason to believe that gentleman is mistaken upon this point. If he will take the trouble to read my prospectus he will see that my work is projected to absorb the 'Codex' among other collections, and has a wider scope than Kemble's famous book.

I do not pretend, nor do I undertake, to give all the readings of all the MSS of a document.

If I were to take up this position, I know very well—and those who are at all acquainted with the subject know too-that the leisure time of not one life, but many, would be consumed before

such a task were completed.

It is quite true, and I have long been aware, that the labours of Gale and Migne are not immaculate. We must now, I suppose, follow your correspondent and put Kemble in the same cate-We must now, I suppose, follow your gory of defaulters. Yet these antiquaries and their works are not wholly to be despised, nor are their errors without their use, and I think it is a matter which may well be left to editorial discretion whether their readings should or should not find a place in the new 'Cartularium.' Perhaps I ought, after the fashion of some foreign editors of classical texts, to have introduced words to show my abhorrence of bad

readings.

Mr. Hessels attacks my foot-note record of sapori (for sopori in text) as useless. It may be so, but I think also it is of such a nature as should be pointed out in my work. I am quite aware that it is a printer's error. A very large number of all variations of MS. texts are derived from errors of transcribers, who, in fact, stand to MSS. in the same light that compositors do

to printed books.

The readings perquisierant and apparuit are undoubtedly better than perquisiti erant and operuit, and my attention had been directed to them before I read the Athenaum containing Mr. Hessels's remarks. These and other variant readings, which no doubt will be pointed out from time to time, will find a place in a subse-quent part of the 'Cartularium.' Let me here say that it is rash to assert that grammatical mistakes, the use of wrong words, false tenses and concords, are not found in ancient charters. Your correspondent must be, to say the least, but little acquainted with Anglo-Saxon charters when he asserts that "it seems hardly credible that the scribes should have been so ignorant of Latin as to commit such errors." The contrary is the fact; numerous errors of language occur in genuine charters, and furnish valuable diacritical aids towards determining their credibility.

I shall pass over those passages in the criticism which declare that I ought not to undertake the

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Cartularium' unless I have sufficient leisure to travel to the resting-places of all the MSS. Your correspondent must know that a mere verbatim et litteratim reprint of Kemble's 'Codex,' with all its errors and shortcomings, would, even so, deservedly command a great circulation, and I am sure he will give me credit for conscien-

I am sure he will give me credit for conscientiously working to rectify most of them.

'Cart. Sax.,' 10, which your correspondent asserts to be out of place, is not dated in 615, as he imagines, but it has a postscript in which that date is mentioned. The document emanates from Pope Boniface IV., whose death is commonly accepted before that year. The text forms No. 1548 in Jaffé's 'Regesta Pontificum,' with date of 610: and as I have rightly. I main. with date of 610; and as I have rightly, I main-tain, placed it (to Mr. Hessels's displeasure) before a text dated 611, I may justly in this respect complain of his slender knowledge of the

subject he undertakes to criticize.

Mr. Hamilton's edition of Malmesbury's 'Gesta Pontificum' comes in for a criticism also, Gesta Fontheum comes in for a criticism also, but I fail to see how the reading nostrorum ('Cart. Sax.,' 10, l. 19), proposed by your correspondent, "makes better sense" than extrorum in the sentence, "Quæ nostra decreta, sestrorum in the sentence, "Que nostra decreta, si quis successorum vestrorum, sive regum sive episcoporum, elericorum sive laicorum irrita facere temptaverit," &c. The next deed ('Cart. Sax.,' 11, p. 18, l. 27) proves the very opposite, in the passage where the same Pope declares, "Quæ si quis successorum tuorum regum sive episcoporum, clericorum sive laicerum, contempserit aut irrita facere temptaverit," &c. How could a Pope call his successors kings or laymen?

If Mr. Hessels will wait for the conclusion of vol.i. of the new 'Cartularium,' he will be enabled to dispense with the insinuation that "perhaps Mr. Birch believes them all [the charters] to be genuine." I think my judgment on this head will be wisely reserved for the tabular list pre-fixed to the work, wherein the spurious docu-ments will be pointed out.

WALTER DE GRAY BIRCH.

I PRESUME that the dates to which Mr. Walter de Gray Birch ascribes the charters in this collection are merely provisional, and that he will in a future issue give us his own critical

opinions upon them.

His twenty-second document, for instance, is ascribed to the year 664 A.D., and nevertheless contains, besides a reference to "Danegeldum," such peculiarly Scandinavian place-names in England as Gunthorpe, Senglesholt, Loholm, Trendemerebec, Undale, Riseby, Normanby, &c., most of which would be commonly ascribed to a much later period.

If we are not to accept the theory which sets the arrival of Northmen on our eastern coasts at a much earlier date than that given in the Saxon Chronicle (A.D. 789), this charter must be a glaring forgery.

EDMUND MACLURE.

#### BROWNING BIBLIOGRAPHY.

In the Browning bibliography published by the Browning Society it is mentioned upon hearsay that the poem 'The Twins,' which has a place in the 'Men and Women' of 1855, had appeared the year before as one of 'Two Poems by E. B. B. and R. B.,' printed by Mrs. Browning's sister for sale at a charity bazaar. A copy of the pamphlet in question was lately catalogued by a second-hand bookseller; and a correspondent who bought it sends us, as a bibliographical crumb for the Society, the following collation: Title-page, "Two Poems | by | Elizabeth Barrett and Robert | Brown-No publication line except on the creamcoloured wrapper, which bears, in addition to the above title, the imprint "London: | Chap-man & Hall, 193, Piccadilly. | 1854. | Price Six-pence." The first poem is 'A Plea for the Ragged Schools of London. Written in Rome,' occupying pp. 3-11, thirty-two quatrains, signed "Elizabeth Barrett Browning," and dated "March 20th, 1854." The second poem, 'The Twins: "Give" and "It-shall-be-given-unto-you," seven quatrains, occupying pp. 13-15, is signed "Robert Browning," and dated "Rome, March 30th, 1854." P. 16 bears merely the imprint of Messrs. Bradbury & Evans. The title of Mrs. Browning's poem was changed to 'A Song for the Ragged Schools of London' 'A Song for the Ragged Schools of London' when in 1862 it reappeared among her 'Last Poems.' In stanza iii. the pamphlet reads "exultations" for exaltations; and in stanza vi. of 'The Twins' the pamphlet reads "Dabitur points brother" instead of "Dabitur helps his brother." The chief interest in the little brochure is that it fixes to a day the date of each of the two poems, and shows for once husband and wife,

poet and poetess, in a joint publication.

Apropos of this account of 'Two Poems,' it may be mentioned that the bibliography omits from its list of Mr. Browning's printed letters an interesting communication on the subject of Mr. R. H. Horne's poetry, printed with permission by Mr. Buxton Forman (to whom it was addressed) in the preface to a private issue of Mr. Horne's poem 'The Great Peace-Maker' (1871), and reprinted (1872) in a published edition of the poem. One more crumb of Browning bibliography which might have been given in the Society's book: 'The Return of the Druses' was originally announced at the end of 'Sordello' as in preparation, under the title of 'Mansoor the Hierophant.'

THE EARLY ENGLISH TEXT SOCIETY'S EDITION
OF 'BEOWULF.'
Copenhagen, Oct. 23, 1883.

My distinguished countryman Mr. Furnivall, to whom English literature owes so much, has written denying that Cambridge University ever intended to bring out the Beowulf' fac-simile (all that was really needed by scholars), and asking me to withdraw the word "intrigue." He states that he never heard of Cambridge moving in the matter, and that Skeat himself asked the E.E.T.S. to take it up. Mr. Furnivall adds that he transferred it to Zupitza (assisted by Müllenhoff, whose theory has been demolished by Rönning in his Beovulfs-Kvadet,' Köbenhavn, 1883) because Skeat had no time just then to add the transliteration.

Living so far off, I may have been misinformed. But it was certainly talked about that Cambridge would undertake it, and this on dit reached me in Denmark. Afterwards I heard that the E.E.T.S. would be invited to join in the work. This may also have been a mistake. Perhaps my informant should have said undertake. The next news was that it was given over to Zupitza, as the E.E.T.S. could not wait till Skeat had leisure for the transliteration. was in 1880. We have now 1883. The delay refused to Skeat has been quietly taken by Zupitza, and we are now also to get a transla-

tion and a lot of other things in a second volume, Mr. Furnivall lives in England, and ought to know. So the talk about Cambridge must have been a mistake. I am very sorry to hear it, and beg pardon. The word "intrigue" I withdraw, and substitute "arrangement." The fact remains as it was. But let us be thankful. Cambridge really did choose an Englishman to bring out the glorious old English quarto Gospels, and it has not been arranged that a German editor is to bring out our great forthcoming English dictionary.

George Stephens. dictionary.

#### THE LUTHER EXHIBITION.

British Museum, Oct. 30, 1883. Mr. Pearson, having not very graciously conceded three of my points, and having avoided all the main issues of the rest, gives us another display, in itself not uninteresting, of his Luther

As to the first column and a half of his letter, it is hopeless for us to argue. I am not concerned with the defence of Luther or his Reformation,

and the conundrums suggested by him on those subjects may be capable of any answer he pleases, but that is not the question. When Protestant Germany is celebrating with rejoicing the four hundredth birthday of her national hero it would be a piece of very questionable taste if Protestant be a piece of very questionable taste if Protestant England were to cap the show by an exhibition of Luther's demerits. It might be "scholarly" and it might be "historical," but it would not be polite, and politeness, whether between men or nations, is of more importance than a worship of abstract truth as a fetish in season or out of "La vérité n'est pas toujours bonne à

And now for Mr. Pearson's rejoinders to my

eight points:—

1. His history of the 'Unterricht' is interesting, but unnecessary. That had all been considered, but it does not change the force of my quotations. Till those are explained the book remains a report. Subsequent reports do not alter the state of the case. Surely the same

alter the state of the case. Surely the same men could write two reports.

2. Luther wrote a treatise or sermon on marriage in 1522. It gave rise to much talk, and he was accused in consequence, truly or falsely, of teaching certain very eccentric docrines. This is the treatise in question, and his other sermons "more or less directly connected with marriage" do not deprive it of its position as "Luther's treatise [par excellence] on the marriage state."

3. If the "Museum experts" have since done penance about the "Sacrament der Puss," I can only say that they were right before and are less

right now.

4 and 5 (Schwarzerde and the Erfurt Bible) are rather ungraciously allowed to be unanswerable. The accusation of ignorance against the writers of the catalogue was therefore uncalled

6. Instead of getting himself misled by critics, Mr. Pearson would have done better had he examined the Rotwelsch vocabulary and acquired a slight knowledge of Romany. The study of that corrupt Indian dialect is not uninteresting, and materials are easily obtained. So severe a critic should not make such assertions on subjects of which he is ignorant. tions on subjects or which he is ignorant. Luther's vocabulary is not in Romany, and Rotwelsch is translated in all German dictionaries that I have consulted by "cant, slang, gib-berish." The conclusions of the "Museum experts" being correct, the process whereby they arrived at them may be presumed to be corrected to correct also.

7. If Maurenbrecher is right in attributing to Knaake a change of views on the "memorable words," it was a great change, for nothing could be more definite than his original exprescould be more definite than his original expressions in their favour. Maurenbrecher's is a great name, but Melanchthon's is a greater, and he, in his Latin life of Luther, gives the words in German in their usual traditional form: "Hie stehe ich, Ich kan nicht anders, Gott helff mir. Amen." And a tract which has been already mentioned in this controversy, written, as it would seem from its expressions, "by one evidently present at the Wormser Reichstag," to wit Dr. Martin Luther, ends with the very same words, in different order: "Ich kan nicht anderst, hie stehe ich, Got helff mir. kan nicht anderst, hie stehe ich, Got helff mir, Amen." Evidently the accounts do not agree, and the conclusions of Maurenbrecher are not infallible, and appear less so than ever when supported by such à priori arguments as "nicht einmal passend oder würdig," and the allusion to a "Theaterheld" and a "Koulissenreisser."

8. It is almost comical to be referred to 'Hymns Ancient and Modern' or to Miss H. Fry as authorities on liturgical terms. Mr. Pearson and his authorities seem to be quite unaware that a "hymn" in liturgical language is not the same thing as a sequence, a psalm, or an antiphon (Miss Dunn's 'Hymns from the German' was, by the way, hardly an authority, as it contains nothing of Luther's but "Ein' feste

Burg"). I do not deny that some people might have called the 'Geistliche Lieder' hymns, but those who do so are inexact in their translation, and a few errors do not make a "usage." My assertion is that 'Spiritual Songs' is not only more literal, but also more comprehensive, and more literal, but also more comprehensive, and therefore more accurate. If it is wrong to call a sermon a "treatise," it is far worse to call a sequence, a psalm, or a litany a "hymn." Also the expression "Geistliche Lieder," being probably taken from the κ'δαὶ πνευματικαὶ (or the Vulgate "cantica spiritualia") of Coloss. iii. 16, may fitly be translated by the corresponding expression of the English Bible, especially when the words have also been made familiar by upwarks of a hundred editions of Watte's 'Hymney works of a hundred editions of Watte's 'Hymney. wards of a hundred editions of Watts's 'Hymns and Spiritual Songs.' As to Mr. Pearson's gleanings from Meister and other assertions about the origin of Luther's 'Lieder,' it is, as he says, unnecessary to continue, especially when he can make such astounding statements as that in the vernacular versions of "Veni Sancte Spiritus" must be sought Luther's inspiration for "Kom, Gott Schöpfler, Heiliger Geist." Let me refer him to 'Hymns Ancient and Modern (last edition, Nos. 156, 157) or to the Roman Missal and Breviary, that he may learn the difference between "Veni Sancte Spiritus," the sequence for Pentecost, and "Veni Creator Spiritus," the hymn for the first vespers of the same feast, and judge from which of them Luther's German comes. This, however, touches Mr. Pearson's accuracy rather than that of the Luther catalogue. Of course I know Meister's book, though I do not altogether agree with him; but that is a long story, and has also nothing to do with the present question.

HENRY JENNER.

4, Trafalgar Square, Nov. 1, 1883. Mr. Karl Pearson is, I think, to be congratulated on his graceful descent from the lofty critical tone of his first two letters. His pitch was manifestly too high. Indeed, he has shown better scholarship in his dorsal movements than he evinced in his ill-timed onslaught. One may see from his example how the dogmatic "norm of modern thought clears its own track, and how

it may be changed in the process.

Mr. Pearson, without any declaration of war, made fifteen charges and fourteen suggestions against the Luther Exhibition. The charges show the weakness of scholarship in the Museum, the suggestions the strength of Mr. Pearson's reserve force of thought and historical research. seemed actuated by some rancour akin to that of John Randolph of Roanoke, who, after long discussing tariff questions in Congress, owned that he so hated the word wool that he would at any time go a mile out of his way to kick a sheep.

It is not necessary to meander again with Mr. Pearson through all his charges and explanations of them. He condemned the Luther Exhibition as insufficient, the catalogue of it as unscholarly, and the authorities as unaware of the Luther treasures within the walls of the Museum. One of the insufficiencies of the catalogue is that "Luther's 1522 sermon on the marriage state "Luther's 102z sermon on the marriage state is described as a 'treatise.'" He was answered that "the word 'sermon' is not on the title-page nor in the book, but even if it were it is well settled that a sermon, a lecture, discourse, or exhortation on a matter of conduct or duty, when printed may be well called a 'treatise,' though in the form of a sermon." To this Mr. Pearson replied: "I assert that the gentleman who described one of Luther's numerous sermons on marriage, not as a treatise even, but as 'Luther's treatise on the marriage state,' was obviously unacquainted with Luther's writings. Mr. Stevens asserts the word 'sermon' is not in the book. Its words are:..... 'And I divide this sermon [predig] into three parts.' Comment is needless.....I can only reply that to call one of Luther's twelve sermons more or less directly connected with marriage Luther's treatise on the marriage state seems to argue

ignorance of the other eleven." The title of the " Vom Eelichen | Leben. | Martinus Luther. | Wittemberg, | M.D. xxij." Nowitisone of the well-recognized rules of bibliography that every book is to be catalogued on its own merits, under its own name or title. The cataloguer, if he be ever so learned, is not expected to go be-yond the book itself. He may give what addi-tions and explanations he thinks proper, but they must be within brackets, in notes, or in cross-references. But the date, 1522, is a part of the title, and as it requires in English some prefix, I take it that one may justly call it Luther's Treatise on the Married State.' To carry his last point and stick to his first Mr. Pearson must show that Luther printed twelve sermons or treatises on marriage in 1522, which of course, with all his nimble versatility, he cannot do. I still assert (though my qualifying words ought to have gone for something) that the word "sermon" is not in the "treatise' nor on its title-page. Luther was apparently partial to the word "sermon," but sometimes used on his title-pages the word "predig" in-I do not think they were quite synonymous with him, for I possess one entitled 'Ein Sermon oder Predig,' 1518. I found the word sermon" was not on the title, and looked for it in the text without success. However, Mr. Pearson has found "predigt," which I overlooked, and I readily concede to him the gratification of crowing in this instance to the par value of the discovery. It does not weaken the editor's word "treatise."

I know that this is a very small point, like the 'Spiritual Songs' of my last letter; but it is really, like that, the biggest one left me by Mr. Pearson. All the others are now mere puff-balls, and I am not surprised that Mr. Pearson is not disposed to continue the dis-cussion. He has, however, done us all one good service before retiring, and that is to "suggest to private collectors the possibility of a Luther exhibition apart from that at the Museum." I cheerfully second the motion, and presume this generous suggestion points to the efforts now making by our friends of Exeter Hall. Let Mutian also in this year of celebrations reap the honours of those thoughtful and scientific men who seem already to have concluded that "possibly the Reformation was the outcome of passion rather than of reason," and that "possibly more good was reason," and that "possibly more good was destroyed than evil reformed." The best thing recorded of him is probably the fact that he recorded of him is probably the fact that he never published anything, intimating that "fools only publish books." He had most likely been confirmed in this outcome of profound thought by Erasmus's 'Prayse of Follie.' honour to whom honour is due! be it Erasmus, Luther, Mutian, or Leo X. But, as Poor Richard says, "it is better, perhaps, that posterity should ask, Why hath not our Mutian a statue? than, Why hath he one?"

One word more on Mr. Pearson's smallest point, of which he makes so much—Luther's Spiritual Songs' of 1545-43. While skimming Spiritual Songs of 1545-43. While skimming Lord Selborne's article on hymnody in the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' to get up hiscolumn of scholarship, he ought to have noted that Luther published as early as 1522 eight of his hymns; in 1527 he enlarged his collection to sixty-three; and by 1543 he had increased it to 125. This new compilation, exceeding any previous one, appeared under the simple title of 'Geistliche der,' probably the only two words he could find completely covering the entire contents of the book. It was, therefore, the first edition or editio princeps, notwithstanding that some of the contents had appeared before in smaller col-

lections.

In conclusion, permit me to say that I rejoice in the literary activity displayed this year all over Christendom with regard to Luther and his times. The many histories and historical essays coming out in Germany, the large number issued also in this country and America, are all welcome. And so are the 'Documenta Lutherana' coming forth from the Vatican itself, to say nothing of the original 'Unterricht' papers that are turning up in the archives of Saxony. Let them all come forth and be tested by the litmus papers of time and the press. If Luther and his party or the Reformers obtained any unfair advantage, either by corrupting documents or deflecting truth a jot, let all be made straight. If injustice was done in Germany or elsewhere to Leo's bulls or letters, or even if Tetzel was foully hit in the fight, or if the alleged crimes were committed on the Seven Hills, let the truth come out, for in the language of Ohio's favourite poet :-

Truth struck to earth shall rise again;
The eternal years of God are hers;
But Error wounded writhes with pain,
And dies amid his worshippers. HENRY STEVENS, of Vermont.

Richmond, Surrey, Oct. 29, 1883.

THE suggestion made by Mr. Karl Pearson in the Athenaum of October 27th, that a Luther exhibition should be arranged for under private auspices, will, I hope, find favour with many of your readers who may not have been stirred up to partisanship by the recent correspondence, but still may wish that a more complete collection illustrative of the literature of the Reformation should be made at this time accessible to the public. Happening to have been during the last twenty-five years a pretty successful collector in this direction, I for one should be happyt o co-operate, and I trust that Mr. Pearson's appeal may elicit a response from many others similarly circumstanced. JOHN ELIOT HODGKIN.

SHAKSPEARE'S MONUMENT AND GRAVESTONE.

A rew days since I happened to be in Strat-ford-on-Avon, and I went with many pilgrims to revisit Trinity Church. The suggestion of Dr. Halliwell-Phillipps that the time-honoured gravestone of Shakspeare was not the original one placed over the poet's grave was so startling to me that I wished again to inspect the grave and monument I know so well. Fortunately, Dr. Halliwell-Phillipps was in the church at the time, and he, kind and courteous as is his wont, told me the reasons he assigned for the supposition that the old gravestone had been replaced by a new one. He instanced the freshness of the inscription after three hundred years' wear, when the gravestone was not enclosed, as at present, within the communion rails. I knew that the gravestones of the Halls and Nashes had been replaced and the inscriptions recut. I found on examination that they had been recut on slabs of the blue lias of the district, whilst the slabs over the graves of Shakspeare and his wife were of a ruddy-tinted sandstone. Dr. Halliwell-Phillipps thought that Mrs. Shakspeare's gravestone, from its lying so near the wall, had not worn so much as that of her poet-husband, and that it was original. The lettering of the well-known epitaph was deeper than was to be expected after so many years. I asked if there might not have been some loving hand to recut and deepen the inscription, for there has been more than the one "Old Mortality" immortalized by Sir Walter Scott. The worthy parish clerk was ready enough to affirm, what I believe is the actual truth, that the gravestone is the same that was first laid over the grave. The laying down of a fresh gravestone since the Jubilee would have been noted by Wheler if it had taken place. He has recorded the repainting of the bust and its disfigurement by Malone, but he does not allude to the gravestone. The present mayor, as well as other authorities, reminded me that a former visitor at the vicar's had de-voted his leisure, morning after morning, to renewing the worn inscription by deepening letters, and thus giving it that legibility which has caused Dr. Halliwell-Phillipps to suppose that a new stone has been laid over the old one.

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There might have been a suspicion also that the stone had been tampered with during the the stone had been tampered with during the alterations and reseating of the church by the late Mr. Eggington. That many removals and alterations were made then we know from many sources, and in the Collectanea Hunteriana, in the British Museum (Add. MS. 24,585), there are some notes respecting these alterations which throw a little light on this interesting question. Mr. Joseph Hunter, writing in pencil under date

Mr. Joseph Hunter, writing in pencil under date August 26th, 1845 (p. 75):—

"Indignant at the alterations. The gravestones in the chancel below the steps removed and their place supplied by diamond pavement. The Ins [inscriptions] within the rails covered by a new species of tile.

"The Shakspeare monument allowed to re-

main, but by the advance of the step still more of the blank part of the poet's gravestone is covered. Nothing done to the inscription on the wife or to his inscription.

"Thos. Nashe's inscription has been recut.

The arms are also recut, without anything of heraldic taste. The Talbot heads wretchedly drawn. One of the stage head [7] atwist. The [chevron] charged with a roundel and four [crosscrosslets, of which a sketch is given]. Outside this place lie the bodies of [George?] Hart and Esther his wife. She died the 27th day of April, 1696, aged sixty-two.
"Dr. Hall's.—The Talbots' heads worse drawn,

and the bend and spear perfectly tasteless as

"Mrs. Hall's.—The arms still worse. Talbots wretchedly drawn, all atwist and ill placed, while the bend and spear are worse than in any preceding. Nothing can exceed the bald and tasteless designing of the heraldry through-out." Mr. Hunter gives a sketch of the lozenge

bearing Mrs. Hall's arms.
"The lines 'Witty,' &c., have been restored, and the previous inscription obliterated to make room for them.....Bust has been brightened, and looks to me different from what it was.

Worse and more bald.

"In the inscription are many connected letters [of which an example is given].

"On the whole, it is with a feeling of indignation I contemplate what has been done.

There are several other remarks on the monuments and the transforming of the south tran-sept into the vestry; but the above evidence is valuable, as far as it goes, to show that, even in the midst of the many alterations going on, some respect was paid to the gravestone and the inscription.

There is yet one other point with respect to the inscription. It is in the usual seventeenth century style. It bears the marks of being hurriedly cut and corrected afterwards; the style and corrections would hardly be repeated by a mere copier. There is, then, at least presumptive evidence that the gravestone is the one originally placed over the remains of William Shakspeare. There is also an absence of all tradition or memory of any tampering with the gravestone, though we know how the monument was coloured and recoloured. This, though but was coloured and recoloured. This, though but negative evidence, tends to show that the gravestone now visible is the original one, and not a mere copy, which is more than can be said of the entries respecting the birth and death of Shakspeare in the parish registers.

J. Tom Burgess, F.S.A.

#### Literary Gossip.

Mr. George Meredith is engaged upon two new novels. They are called 'Saxon v. Celt' and 'An Amazing Marriage.'

LORD LORNE'S new book, 'Memories of Canada and Scotland: Speeches and Verses, will shortly be published as a crown octavo volume by Messrs. Sampson Low & Co.

THE interesting biographical notice of Sir !

Moses Montefiore which recently appeared in the Times will shortly be republished by permission, with additions, in pamphlet form, at the office of the Jewish Chronicle. The author is Mr. Israel Davis.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL will publish early in December a book on Egypt by Mr. A. M. Broadley, who was senior counsel for Arabi Pasha at his trial in Cairo. It will be entitled 'How we defended Arabi: a Story of Egypt and the Egyptians,' and will contain, in addition to a full account of the proceedings which led to Arabi's exile, much new, interesting, and unpublished matter likely to throw important light on the history of Egypt during the past two years. The book will be illustrated by several portraits and engravings executed by Mr. Frederick Villiers, the well-known correspondent of the Graphic in Egypt.

Works on China are numerous this season. 'Gems of Chinese Literature' is the title of a new book by Mr. Herbert A. Giles, H.B.M. Vice-Consul at Shanghai, announced to appear in a few days. The book will be in one volume and contain over a hundred extracts from some sixty of the most famous Chinese authors of all ages, thus forming an introduction to the general literature of China. It is to be published by Mr. Bernard Quaritch.

MR. WALTER BESANT has written a story called 'A Glorious Fortune,' which will form the Christmas number of All the Year

MR. HALL CAINE is editing for the "Parchment Library" a selection from Coleridge's prose writings. He has identified certain of the articles contributed to the Morning Post, which are said to have doubled the circulation of that paper in six months. The Courier is also being looked through. This may result in a considerable addition to Coleridge's authenticated writings. Having spent much of his youth in the neighbour-hood of Keswick, Mr. Caine has a fund of anecdote touching the Coleridge family which may give freshness to his book. Mr. Caine has almost completed a critical work on the higher art in Shakspeare: the supernatural, the weird, and the mythological. This will probably appear in the

THE paper in the current number of the Edinburgh Review on the 'Memorials of Cardinal Allen' is understood to be written by Mr. T. G. Law, of the Signet Library, Edinburgh. Mr. Law's long connexion with the Brompton Oratory and its library gives him special advantages for the study of such a subject.

THE worthies selected for the window to be inserted in the hall of Christ's College, Cambridge, in memory of the late Rev. W. M. Gunson, are William Bingham (the original founder), King Henry VI., the Lady Margaret, Cardinal Fisher, King Edward VI., Sir John Finch, Sir Thomas Baines, John Leland, Archbishop Grindal, Sir Walter Mildmay, Bishop Still, William Perkins, William Lee (inventor of the stocking frame), Sir John Harington, Quarles, Milton, John Cleveland (the Cavalier poet), Henry More, Cudworth, Paley, and Darwin.

MR. MARION CRAWFORD, the author of 'Mr. Isaacs,' has a new novel in the press, which will be shortly published by Messrs. Chapman & Hall.

MR. ERNEST BUDGE, of the Department of Oriental Antiquities in the British Museum, proposes to publish the Syriac version of the romance of Alexander the Great from two MSS., one in the Museum and the other lent by the American Oriental Society, together with the glosses and variants, and an English translation. The romance contains the miraculous birth of Alexander, his wars with Darius and Porus, his visit to Cathay, the appearance of Christ to him when surrounded by enemies, his death by poison and burial at Alexandria, and the other incidents harmonizing in letter or in spirit with the mediæval versions of his history. The Syriac text is of considerable philological value, containing numerous rare words derived from the Greek or Persian. Some parts agree with the pseudo-Callisthenes, but very few.

THE forthcoming volume of posthumous essays by Prof. Reinhold Pauli, of Göttingen, promises, as is natural, to prove very interesting to English readers. It will contain nine essays, eight of which treat of English history, and the ninth, a short life of Baron Bunsen, ought to be as interesting to Englishmen as to the writer's fellow countrymen. The principal essay, extending to 160 pages, is his monograph on the Beginnings of Henry VIII.,' unfortunately left unfinished. A short memoir of Pauli

appears as an introduction.

A NEW and cheaper edition of Miss Octavia Hill's well-known book on 'The Homes of the London Poor' will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. within the next few weeks. The same publishers have in preparation a volume of chrono-logical tables compiled on a new and very convenient plan by the Rev. A. C. Jennings, of Jesus College, Cambridge. Previous books of the kind have always been too full for the ordinary reader. The dates in this volume are carefully selected, and then arranged in six parallel columns under headings of subjects, in such a manner as to catch the eye at once. The headings are: 1, Political History; 2, Church History; 3, Wars, Catastrophes, &c.; 4, Biography and Topography; 5, Inventions, Science, and Art; 6, Laws, Literature, and Institutions. These synchronistic tables will range from B.C. 753 to the present reign. By this arrangement the really useful dates of each department of study will be so presented as to catch the eye, even without the aid of the index with which the work will be supplemented. The whole will form a handy volume of about 300 pages.

WITH reference to the forthcoming new edition of Boswell's 'Johnson,' it will interest many people to know that some of the earliest of Dr. Johnson's letters, those to Edward Cave, are still in the hands of Cave's descendants. At the time they were printed in Croker's edition they belonged to Miss Cave, of Reading, from whom they descended to the lady who now owns them.

UNDER the authority of the Historical MSS. Commissioners, Mr. H. C. Maxwell Lyto examined during the summer many collections of private and corporation muniments in Staffordshire. These included manuscripts belonging to Wenlock, Bishop's Castle, and Oswestry; to Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., Mr. Jasper More, Mr. Plowden, Mr. Salwey, Mr. Gatacre, Mr. Sandford, and to other representatives of some of the most ancient families in the kingdom. Next year the Commissioners hope to make a further inspection of documents in the same county, and to include those belonging to Shrewsbury and Ludlow, the examination of which was unavoidably postponed this year.

Ramâbhai, the Sanskrit poetess, spent several days at Oxford last week. She was the guest of Prof. Max Müller. The extraordinary power of her memory, and the fluency and correctness with which she speaks Sanskrit, and composes extempore Sanskrit poetry in the most difficult metres, surprised all who saw her. Pandit Shyâmajî Krishnavarma, Mr. Visvas, of Calcutta, the Rev. C. Bellairs, lately of Bombay, and others had been invited to meet Ramâbhai. She is probably the first learned Brâhmanî who has crossed the ocean. She traces her descent from the old Vedic family of Sândilya.

Mr. Tennyson is going to contribute a poem hitherto unpublished to the January number of Good Words. A poem of the Laureate's (is it the same one?), which the publishers declare to be "a lyric of great sweetness and tenderness," is announced as to appear in a Boston periodical called the Youth's Companion, which is also going to print poems by Lord Lytton, and tales by Mr. Thomas Hardy, Mr. W. Black, M. Daudet, Mrs. Oliphant, and other writers of note. Good Words promises during next year articles by the Duke of Argyll, Mr. Froude, Sir Lyon Playfair, Mr. R. H. Hutton, and others.

Mr. Arthur Allchin, who was an intimate friend of the late Hablôt K. Browne, has written an article on his life and work which will appear shortly in the Century Magazine, and will be copiously illustrated from original drawings by "Phiz."

THE 'History of the Development of the House' is the subject of a series of articles which Mr. H. B. Wheatley is writing, and which will appear in the Antiquary.

A THIRD edition of 'The Sportsman's Handbook,' by Mr. Rowland Ward, F.Z.S., is in the press, containing the latest information on the subject, even down to Lord Mayo's most recent expedition into a new hunting district in East Africa. Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall & Co. are the publishers.

'Don't: a Manual of Mistakes in Conduct and Speech,' which has had some success in America, will be issued immediately by Messrs. Griffith & Farran in a revised edition for English readers. As its title indicates, it tells what ought, by pointing out what ought not, to be done.

Mr. Henry Blackburn starts to-day on a short lecturing tour in the United States.

A New novel by Mrs. A. M. Diehl, 'The Knave of Hearts,' will be published in January by Mr. Bentley, who has already published two of her works; and this is to be followed by a more ambitious exploit in fiction, 'Aspasia,' taking us back to the old Greek days.

A MAN calling himself F. Trübner has lately visited booksellers in the country and obtained assistance on the statement

that he was related to Messrs. Trübner & Co., the well-known publishers. This man is identical with a person who, in the beginning of this year, represented himself as "Schiedmeyer," "Neumeyer," and "Nutt," perpetrating similar frauds upon country customers of the last-named firm. His description is as follows: A young German, height 6 ft., clean face, high cheekbones, German cast of countenance, eyes grey, hair brown, mixed cloth suit of bluish colour, round felt hat with narrow brim, jersey sleeves showing at his cuffs, gentlemanly appearance and demeanour, talked broken English with a German pronunciation. The metropolitan police hold a warrant for his arrest.

Mr. R. E. Francillon's Christmas number, the latest of a long series published by Messrs. Grant & Co., will be entitled 'A Great Heiress: a Fortune in Seven Checks.'

THE Welsh Dissenters are making a strong effort to support the University College at Aberystwyth, which is threatened by the rivalry of the new colleges at Cardiff and Bangor. The college has done well of late at London University, and during the past year seven students have gained honours at Oxford, one of them being placed in the first class in classics, while at Cambridge a first class in natural science and a first class in law have fallen to past students of the college. Professors have just been elected, or will be very soon, in logic and Welsh, while assistant lecturers in English and mathematics have been appointed. The Government grant will, it seems, be withdrawn in March, and large subscriptions have been promised for the maintenance of the college, which, it is hoped, may tide over the crisis.

The deaths are announced of Prof. Adam Wolf, the Austrian historian, and of the German poetess Alexandrine, Countess Schwerin.

A LUTHER festival is to be celebrated at Augsburg on November 10th, and a tablet placed on the door of the Carmelite monastery—now a parsonage—in which Luther lodged in October, 1518.

The General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in America has now practically completed its revision of the Prayer Book. The new rubrics provide for a very large discretion on the part of officiating ministers, in regard both to the selection of alternative canticles, prayers, and lessons, and to the abbreviation of the several services.

Very general regret is felt in Finland for the premature death of Robert Castrén, the editor of the Helsingfors Dagblad. Born in 1851, he began his literary career by editing the Finsk Tidskrift while still at the university, which he quitted to succeed Lagerbord in the direction of the Dagblad. His works 'Matthias Kolonius, first Procurator of Finland,' 'The Finnish Deputation of 1808,' and a series of sketches from the later history of Finland, enjoy a high reputation in his native country.

The students of Harvard now publish a daily newspaper. This sheet, known by the locally intelligible name of *Herald-Crimson*, is probably the only university organ issued by undergraduates every day.

Dr. Wright informs us that to his work on the Hittites, mentioned in the Athenaum for October 20th, Prof. Sayce will contribute not a preface, but a chapter on the decipherment of the Hittite inscriptions.

#### SCIENCE

The Chemistry of the Secondary Batteries of Planté and Faure. By J. H. Gladstone, Ph.D., F.R.S., and Alfred Tribe, F.Inst.C. (Macmillan & Co.)—It does not need many words to commend this clear and practical little volume to all whom it may concern. Whilst electricians were in a ferment about the physical properties of the wonderful "box of electricity" constructed of the wonderful "box of electricity" constructed by M. Faure, the authors were clear-sighted enough to perceive that the vital question was the chemical one; that the so-called store of electricity was really a store of chemical energy, capable of being turned into electrical energy with great rapidity; and that in the stability of the whole, considered as a chemical apparatus, lay the question of its ultimate success or failure. It is now recognized that this stability is not yet assured, and that accordingly the batteries are not yet a complete success; and it may safely be predicted that if ever they are made so, it will be by following out the lines which Messrs. Gladstone and Tribe have indicated. The substance of their work appeared in *Nature* for 1882 and 1883, and will, therefore be fresh in the recollection of those interested in the question, who will be glad, however, to have it gathered up in this compact and handy volume. The basis of their investigation is the discovery that the negative plate of a Planté battery is itself an electrical couple, capable of decomposing water with the reduction of peroxide of lead to monoxide, and also of decomposing sulphuric acid with the production of sulphate of lead. This formation of sulphate goes on continually both in the Planté and the Faure battery, and is in fact requisite in order that the charge may be retained for a sufficient time to be practically available. Starting from this basis, the authors discuss the reactions which take place both during the charging and discharging of the battery, the actual function of the sulphate, the influence of strength of acid, the evolution of oxygen, and other subsidiary questions.

Farm Roads, Fences, and Gates. By John Scott. (Crosby Lockwood & Co.)—Mr. Scott, late Professor of Agriculture and Rural Economy at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, estimates that for every acre of enclosed land in this country there is over one pound invested in fences; and that the annual maintenance of these fences costs something like three shillings per acre. If this be the case, the total capital sunk in fences in the United Kingdom amounts to nearly 50,000,000%, and the annual main-tenance and repair of the same come to at least 6,750,000% per annum. We look in vain, however, in his book for any information on the more important question of the proportion of farm roads to acreage—a matter of all the more importance because the disproportionate area required for roadways in small holdings is one of the causes of the waste and loss involved by the minute subdivision of land. Again, when we find a chapter headed "Navigable Canals" we turn to it with interest to see what contribution is offered to the literature of a subject which is now-on the Continent, if not yet in this country -regaining much of its former estimation as one of the main sources of industrial progress. We find, however, but little said on the subject, except as far as regards the sugar plantations of Demerara; and it is difficult to understand, even with regard to them, how much of the loss of land mentioned is due to the requirements of carriage, and how much to those of irrigation. There is, however, a good deal of valuable detail in the book, and the sketches

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and descriptions of various kinds of fences and gates will at least show the farmer to what sources to look for information. The chapter sources to 100k for information. The chapter on hedges is very good, and the following little bit of practice will be new to many: "If the wounded parts of the roots [of the young quickset plants, when removed from the nursery bed] be cut into small pieces, and sown in a bed prepared for them, they will produce quick-thorns the same year, and such a method of propagation is more expeditious than that of growing them from the seed." The lovers of English country scenery will learn with regret that the extrascenery will learn with regret that the cause-ordinary cheapness, and we suppose that we may add the efficiency, of "barb wire fencing," is likely to lead to the general use of this odiously unpicturesque form of barrier. large quantities barb wire, double strand, and with the barb five inches apart, costs less than one penny per yard." This is a great contrast to the cost of a yard of the post-and-rail and quickset fences usual on our railways. But we have some hopes that rust will prove a rapid conqueror of the barbed wire, even in spite of conqueror of the barbed wire, even in spite of the additional odiousness acquired by steeping it in tar. Slight as the book is, it is worth the purchase of any one who is about to incur any material expense in the way of farm roads, fences, or gates.

The Parallel Roads of Glenroy. By James Macfadzean. (Edinburgh, Menzies & Co.)—In 1876 the author of this volume sent to the meeting of the British Association at Glasgow a paper 'On the Origin of the Parallel Roads of Lochaber.' This paper, "being unusually leng, was doomed to be held as read." He then informs his readers that, "in these unsatisfactory circumstances, my paper was laid on the shelf, where it would probably have remained had not the appearance of Prof. Prestwich's monograph revived my interest in the question." Mr. Macfadzean in this work deals with the origin of the fadzean in this work deals with the origin of the Parallel Roads of Glenroy, their relation to the glacial period and the Deluge. We have carefully gone through the book, which consists of the original paper to the fifty-fifth page, the additional hundred pages "having been written in the hope of strengthening the argument." Dr. Macculloch, Sir T. D. Lauder, and others agreed in considering the Parallel Roads as ancient beaches formed around the edges of sheets of water, which once stood at the level of the highest ledge, and subsequently at the of water, which once stood at the level of the highest ledge, and subsequently at the heights of the two lower ones. Mr. Darwin believed that the shelves of Glenroy were formed when the glens were still arms of the sea, and when the land was undergoing a slow and upward movement. A similar opinion is and upward movement. A similar opinion is expressed by Mr. Robert Chambers in his 'Ancapressed by Mr. Robert Chambers in his 'Ancient Sea Margins.' Messrs, Agassiz and Buckland started the conjecture that these valleys had been once blocked up by enormous glaciers descending from Ben Nevis, thus giving rise to glacier-lakes. More recently Prof. Prestwich has adopted the glacial hypothesis in a modified from He supposes the hills to have been overed with a coating, several feet thick, of angular fragments, mixed with sand and clay, the product of the great ice sheet. On the bursting of the ice barrier the lake would necessarily fall, and the saturated mass of débris would part with its water, and, in a semi-liquid state, slide down with the falling waters until, the original cause of movement ceasing, the sliding mass would come to rest at the waterline. As the lake fell to the next level the trital mass would be again set in motion, and by asimilar process the third or lower road would be eventually formed. Mr. Macfadzean has, with considerable labour, endeavoured to show the weak points of these hypotheses, and out of the different views entertained by others he endeavours to construct a modified one for himself. It is not possible within the limits by self. It is not possible within the limits by which we are bound to give a better abstract of our author's views than he himself submitted to the Geological Section of the British Association,

which he tells his readers "was both meagre and incomplete," adding that his "hypothesis received little attention." In brief, it appears to amount to this: a great mass of snow and ice sliding down the mountain at a time when the shingle along the shore-line was deeply indented by the action of the sea. The chapters em-bracing "The Account of the Deluge as given in the English Bible," and that on "The Cosmical Change of Level that followed the Deluge," appear to us to be sadly out of place; and the concluding section, on "The Last Cosmical Change of Level," was not required to prove the oscillations of land and water or to strengthen the theory of terrestrial mutations.

#### ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES.

PROF. PAUL ALBRECHT has contributed to the PROF. PAUL ALBRECHT has contributed to the Society of Anthropology of Brussels an account of the remarkable cranium of an idiot girl, twenty-one years of age, who died some years ago at the municipal asylum at Berlin. Its peculiarities were briefly described in 1876 by M. Ideler, the director of that establishment, in the sixth volume of Westphal's 'Archiv für Psychiatrie und Nervenkrankheiten.' They are cranhically shown in full-size illustrations to graphically shown in full-size illustrations to Dr. Albrecht's paper. The left coronal suture is synostosed, causing differences between the two sides of the skull; the orbits are of extratwo sides of the skull; the orbits are of extra-ordinary shape, giving, when the maximum height is divided by the maximum breadth, an index in the right eye of 1.48, in the left eye of 1.53; the skull presents a great number of rachitic anomalies; and almost every bone has peculiarities, which are described at length.

The same author has contributed to the same society a paper on the four intermaxillary bones, on harelip, and on the morphological value of the upper incisor teeth of man. He maintains, in opposition to Goethe and his follower Th. Kölliker, that the intermaxillary bones are four and not two, and that the deformity called harelip is formed by the consolidation of the inner two, leaving, in the case of a double harelip, a cavity on each side between them and the outer bones respectively. In the appearance sometimes shown by crania affected by these cavities he discerns a reappearance by atavism of a third

The Rev. C. Swynnerton has contributed to the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal a series of thirty-two folk-tales from the Upper Punjab, many of which bear a striking re-semblance to the stories of the wise men of Gotham, and to the libels which to this day are circulated about the people of Keighley, in Yorkshire, and the neighbouring towns. Others are similar to familiar fables; thus the fox and the fleas become the jackal and the fleas, and the jackal in many stories has the reputation for mischief which with us belongs to the fox. A miser protests against another wasting his ghee by dipping his bread in it, when by hanging up the ghee out of reach on a nail, pointing the bread at it, and making believe very much, he might enjoy the ghee in imagination and save it

To the same Journal the Babu Rájendralála Mitra, LL.D., contributes an account of the temples of Deoghar, which possess great sanctity and are much resorted to by pilgrims, and of the traditions and customs with which the worship of the sacred lingam is there associated.

Mr. Lucien Carr, assistant curator of the Peabody Museum, has published (in the Memoirs of the Kentucky Geological Survey) a treatise on the mounds of the Mississippi valley, historically considered. His contention is that the mounds of Ohio, and the whole of the objects found in them, are the work of the Red Indians of historic times or of their immediate ancestors, and not of peoples of remoter antiquity or of a different civilization. The Indians of history were an agricultural people, addicted to sun worship, and sufficient contemporary records

exist of their custom of erecting mounds and other earthworks in New York and the Gulf States that are essentially of the same character as those found in Ohio.

#### ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

THE number of the Comptes Rendus for the THE number of the Complex Rendus for the 8th ult. contains a further series of observations of the comet by M. Bigourdan, of the Paris Observatory, extending from September 24th to October 2nd; and the following extract from his notes upon its appearance will be read with interest:—"La présence de la lune et les nuages ne permirent de réobserver la comète [i. e., after September 9th] que le 23 septembre: son éclat avait beaucoup augmenté, car dans une petite lunatte elle paraissait comme une étaile de 88 craplunette elle paraissait comme une étoile de 8º grandeur ; c'était encore une nébulosité ronde dont deur; c'était encore une nébulosité ronde dont la partie centrale ne se détachait pas du reste; le lendemain 24, par un ciel pur, son aspect était encore le même, et son diamètre atteignait presque 2'. Le 27, un changement considérable s'était déjà produit, car un noyau de 10°-11° grandeur se détachait nettement de la nébulosité, qui s'était bien affaiblie. Depuis lors le noyau est allé aussi en s'affaiblissant. Le 6 octobre, il était de 12° grandeur, mais l'ensemble de la comète s'apercevait plus facilement que dans les observations du commencel'ensemble de la comète s'apercevait plus facile-ment que dans les observations du commence-ment de septembre. Ainsi, le 24 septembre, la comète était de 8e grandeur, tandis que son éclat calculé en partant de celui du 5 lui assigne-la grandeur 11-12. Elle a donc eu pendant quelque temps un éclat trente à quarante fois supérieur à celui qu'on pouvait attendre, ce qui paraît difficile à concilier avec l'opinion qui qui parait difficile à concilier avec l'opinion qui refuse aux comètes une lumière propre." These very remarkable changes of brightness have been noticed also by other observers. Thus Dr. G. Rümker, Director of the Observatory at Hamburg, writes (Ast. Nach., No. 2547):—"On the 23rd of September the comet appeared as a bright object with a brilliant condensation (mit einer glänzenden Verdichtung). On the 27th and following evenings it resembled a very faint, irregular, tolerably large nebula, with a small and scarcely perceptible condensation in the centre. scarcely perceptible condensation in the centre. The contrast was so striking that I at first doubted the identity, and suspected I had made an error in the setting." Baron von Engelhardt, at his observatory at Dresden, states that on the 1st of October the comet was not so bright as on the 28th of September, the nucleus being the public was buy faint. On the 2nd ult being tolerably large, but faint. On the 2nd ult., observing it through the comet-seeker, he noticed that it had a short fan-shaped tail.

that it had a short fan-shaped tail.

Dr. Hartwig has communicated to Astronomische Nachrichten, No. 2548, some later observations, made at Strasbourg, under unfavourable circumstances, owing to bad weather and moonlight, between the 6th and 11th of October. We have not heard of any further abnormal developments of brightness, and bestar of the seventh magnitude. The next fort-night will not, of course, be a favourable time for observing it, on account of moonlight. About the middle of December its apparent motion towards the south will increase in rapidity. According to the calculations of Prof. Weyer, of Kiel, it will be nearest the earth in the second, and nearest the sun in the third week in January. Its distance from us at the end of the present month will be about the same as when it was first seen with the naked same as when it was first seen with the naked eye by Bode in 1812 (which was on the 15th of September, the day of perihelion passage, when the comet was in a position to be seen only in the morning after the twilight had commenced); and as the nights will be moonless about that time, it is not unlikely that it will even then be visible without a telescope, as suggested in our "Notes" for October 20th, where its places are given up to the 30th inst. But there can scarcely be a doubt that it will be an easy object to the naked eye during the evenings of the latter part of December, by the end of which

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month its brightness will be more than a hundred times as great as it was at the time of

Dr. von Konkoly, of the O. Gyalla Observatory, examined the comet with a Vogel spectroscope on the 28th of September, when it presented the appearance of a much diffused bright spot. succeeded, after a long examination, in perceiving three extremely faint bands, even when the slit was pretty widely opened. These bands, so far was pretty widely opened. These bands, so far as could be judged in observing so faint an object as the spectrum then was, faded off on both sides; the middle one (which was probably in the green) was the brightest, that in the most refrangible part of the spectrum the next, and that towards the red the faintest. All were thickest in the middle, tapering to a point at the ends; the brightest was the longest, and the one towards the red part of the spectrum the next, the second above mentioned being the shortest. It should be noted that Mr. Brooks first detected this comet at the present appearance at Phelps, N.Y., on the night of the 1st of September, not of the 2nd, as at first reported.

The small planet No. 226, discovered by Dr. Palisa at Vienna on the 19th of July, 1882, has

received the name Weringia.

The editor of the Astronomische Nachrichten (Prof. Krüger) remarks in No. 2547, with regard to the red star seen momentarily by M. Trouvelot near the sun during the total eclipse on the 6th of May (to which we have several times had occasion to allude, see our "Notes" for August 11th and 18th, and September 15th), that, according to a communication he has had for some time in his hands from Prof. Holden, there can be no doubt that the star in question was, in fact, α Arietis. No intra-Mercurial planet, therefore, was seen during the eclipse.

METINOS FOR THE ENGUING WEEE.

Musical Association. 5 — Theoretical Study as an Assistance to Execution. 10 C. J Frost.

Royal Academy. 8 — Anatomy. Mr. J Marshall.

Tens. Biblical Archeology. 8 — Fourth Tablet of the Creation Series relating to the Fight between Marius and Tiamas. Mr. E. A.

Discoveries. Mr. T. G. Finche Level by Mr. E. Rassam islates: Discoveries. Mr. T. G. Finche Level by Mr. E. Rassam islates: Discoveries. Mr. T. G. Finche Level by Mr. E. Rassam islates: Discoveries. Mr. T. G. Finches Company: Notes on Brocchi's Collection of Subapennine Shelis. Dr. J. G. Jeffreys; Dritish Prof. T. G. Bonney: Notes on Brocchi's Collection of Subapennine Shelis. Dr. J. G. Jeffreys; Dritish Shorthand & Means of Mental Discipline, Mr. T. A. Reed

Thura. Telegraph Engineers, J.— Volts-Ellectric Induction, Mr. W. Mathematical, 8.— Symmedians and the Triplicate Ratio Circle.

Mathematical, 8.— Symmedians and the Triplicate Ratio Circle. MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK. Smith angineers, 7.— Volta-Electric Induction, Mr. W. Smith Mathematical, 8.— Symmedians and the Triplicate Ratio Circle, Mr. R. Tucker; Symmetric Functions, and in particular on certain Inverse Operators in connexion therewith, Capt. P. A. Macmahon; 'On a Certain Envelope,' Prof. Wolsteinholme; 'Certain Results obtained by means of the Arguments of Points on a Plane Curve, Mr. R. A. Roberts; Third Paper 'On Lurchett Microcopical,' On the Capt. P. A. William Multiple Integrals,' Mr. E. B. Elilott, B. Lilott, D. Marshall, (1998). See Smith Mathematical Committee of the Capt. Mr. S. Marshall, (1998). See Smith Mathematical Capt. Sci. The Operator Capt. Mr. J. Marshall, (1998). See Smith Mathematical Capt. Mr. S. Marshall, (1998).

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New Shakspere, 8.—'The Quarto and Pollo of "Richard III.,''
Mr. P. A. Daniel,
Physical, 9.—'Experiments on the Velocity of Sound in Air,' Mr.
D. J. Bialkley; 'Moment of a Compound Magnet,' Mr.
R. H. M. Bosanquet; 'Measurements relating to the Electric
Resistance of the Skin, and to certain Medico-Electric
Appliances,' Mr. W. L. Carpenter. , 8.— The Quarto and Folio of "Richard III.,"

#### Science Cossip.

THE burial-ground adjoining the Abbey Church at Linlithgow has just received a memorial cross, marking the last resting-place of Sir Wyville Thomson. The monument is of grey granite, and is an adaptation of the Celtic cross. It stands about 8 ft. high. and bears the following inscription: "Charles Wyville Thomson, Knight, LL.D., F.R.S. L. and E., Naturalist. Born March 5th, 1830; died March 10th, 1882."

Mr. J. O. BUTLER, J.P., of Kirkstall, near MR. J. O. BUTLER, J.F., of AIRKSTAIL near Leeds, has died in the seventy-third year of his age, following closely the death of his brother, Mr. Ambrose E. Butler, the senior partner in the Kirkstall Forge Company, which for more than a century has been carried on by the Butlers and the Beecroft family. Mr. J. O. Butler was a member of the Institute of Civil Engineers and of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. He took great interest in the preservation of Kirkstall Abbey, and was a strong supporter of the scheme for making it available for a theological

WE learn from Engineering that in recent trials of the speed of working on the Jay Gould cables laid across the Atlantic from Penzance to Canso, in Nova Scotia, 1,000 code words were sent from Penzance, and received at the Canso station, in 81 minutes, including all repetitions and corrections. The thousand words consisted of 7,288 letters, which is about equiva-lent to 1,458 words of five letters each, the average number for the English language. above rate of transmission is therefore equal to eighteen words of five letters per minute.

M. Louis Bréquet, who was born in Paris on the 22nd of December, 1804, is dead. He was the grandson of Abraham Bréguet, the Academician, by whom he was educated until 1823, when his grandfather died. Louis Bréguet spent three years in Switzerland in the study of chronometry. In 1826 he was recalled by his father, and placed at the head of his establishment for marine horology in 1833. Louis Bréguet contributed many discoveries to the Bureau des Longitudes, and Arago greatly encouraged his researches in electro-telegraphy, which appeared for the first time in 1845 in the 'Traité de l'Électricité.' In this year he was décoré. He was a member of the Bureau des Longitudes, of the Société Philotechnique de Paris, and of the Civil Engineers. He was also correspondent of the Société des Sciences de Liège, and of the University of Kazan in Russia.

Cosmos les Mondes for October is devoted to the publication of the 'Relation d'un Voyage au Tonkin, by Jean Baptiste Tavernier, 1650-1670. This is illustrated by a portrait of Tavernier at the age of seventy-four years; a "carte" constructed, this old traveller tells us, after several voyages which he had made; and a plate of "Le Grand Chancelier du Royaume du Tunquin," and seven of the high officers of state.

Prof. H. A. Rowland prints in the Journal of the Franklin Institute for October his address delivered before the American Association for the Advancement of Science at Minneapolis, which advocating he names 'A Plea for Pure Science, very strongly the endowment by the State of institutions for the study of scientific truth.

THE Monthly Records of the Observatory at Melbourne, Victoria, for February, March, and April, have reached us. We feel pleased in noticing the regularity of the publication and the improvement in the transmission of this valuable register of meteorological and magnetic observations.

M. Alfred Niaudet, whose death is announced at the early age of forty-eight years, is well known as an experienced and successful inquirer into electrical phenomena.

THE death is announced of Prof. P. T. Riess. the well-known physicist. He was the first Jew admitted into the Prussian Academy of Sciences, being chosen in 1842. Frederick the Great, it may be remembered, refused to sanction the election of Moses Mendelssohn.

#### FINE ARTS

THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR DRAWINGS by ARTISTS of the BRITISH and FOREIGN SCHOOLS is NOW OPEN at THOMAS McLEAN'S GALLERY, 7, Haymarket.— Admission, including catalogus 1s.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION.—OPEN DAILY, at 1, PALL MALL EAST. 1s.—Monday. Wednesday, Saturday Evenings, even till Ten. 6d.—Monday Evenings, Optical Lantern.

'THE VALE OF TEARS.'—DORE'S LAST GREAT PIUTURE, com-sted a few days before he died. NOW ON VIEW at the Dorf Gallery, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Practorium,' 'Christ's try into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other eat Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, is.

By J. A. le. Vol. I. Raphael: his Life and Works. Crowe and G. B. Cavalcaselle. (Murray.)

(Second Notice.)

Of course, to weigh and balance the various influences to which a painter has been subject, as Messrs. Crowe and Cavalcaselle

have done, is a complex and rather arbitrary process, and the chain of evidence derivable from the sketches and studies ascribed to Raphael is of a somewhat upcertain nature, and liable to challenge whenever doubts arise about the authenticity of works ascribed to him. We have a patent example of the difficulties attending the ascription of such studies and drawings in the history of the so-called "Raphael's Sketch-Book," which is preserved in the Academy at Venice. Notwithstanding the grave doubts which many cognoscenti have entertained of the genuineness of the drawings in this famous volume, Messrs. Crowe and Cavalcaselle experience no difficulty in accepting it as a genuine relic of Raphael's youth, and, as if no doubts had ever arisen, they frequently adduce one or other of these studies as evidence in favour of the arguments and illustrations by which the early part of this remarkable biography has been built up.

There are those who deny that Raphael had any share in the sketches in this precious volume, and there are certainly some drawings in it so bad that they positively deface the pages on which they appear. For the presence of such things our authors blandly account by the remark: "Here and there he [Raphael] allowed a friend to trespass on the page. But this is but one more proof of his amiable disposition"! There are others who, while they reject the rubbish, are not indisposed to admit that Raphael, at an early stage of his career, may have executed two or three, or even half a dozen, of the sketches. But these half believers reject the bulk of the drawings, because they cannot fail to see in these sketches, not only a varied choice of models (now Mantegna, now Perugino, now some one else), but what is a very different thing-a number of sketches which in art, taste, and style have no resemblance to others in the same volume, and which cannot possibly, it would seem, be due to the same hand, although they all alike bear the name of Raphael. This subject is far too large for discussion in this place, but it is our duty to put readers on their guard in respect to the illustrations and arguments drawn by Messrs. Crowe and Cavalcaselle from a considerable proportion of the studies in this extremely debatable "Raphael's Sketch-Book." A host of dilettanti, whose names are not even alluded to by Messrs. Crowe and Cavalcaselle, deny its genuineness, and will hardly like the silence which our authors observe with regard to them. Let us add that some artists do, with more or less reserve, admit nearly all the sketches to be Raphael's.

Returning to the influence of his entourage on Raphael's development, we may remark that the authors do not seem disposed in the present volume to ascribe so much influence as in their former essays to Fra Bartolommeo. The illustrious Frate may well be credited with a prodigious effect on his still more illustrious junior, and we shall hope to find more on the subject in the second volume of this work, which must needs also deal at large with the effect on Raphael of the magnificent doings of Michael Angelo in Rome, as shown in his works in the Vatican and at South Kensington. It is true that in speaking of the 'Panshanger

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7. 3, '83 Madonna' of 1508, Messrs. Crowe and d rather Cavalcaselle point out the traces of Fra Barevidence tolommeo's influence. That work marks, d studies as has been many times said, a change in the style of its author. It is described what unage when. here as instinct with fresh manliness and a enticity of vigour of conception not before so obvious a patent in any picture, large or small, of his. The ding the Peruginesque phase of Raphael's art had drawings reached its term when, as it is quaintly said here, the child Christ "had outgrown the Raphael's d in the period to which nature confines the mere nutriment of milk." The criticism on the ding the enti have motive of this picture is extremely astute he draw. and subtle. As the painter developed, so rs. Crowe his subject passed from babyhood to child-hood. The face of Lord Cowper's Virgin ficulty in Raphael's is more robust, and her expression neither er arisen. so pretty nor so weak as that of the earlier of these Madonnas of Raphael. he argu-

There are admirable analyses and criticism in these pages of the qualities and the aim of many famous Madonnas, such as those called "Del Gran' Duca," "Orleans," "Del Baldachino," and others. In the notices of these works the progress of the artist, in technique as well as in in-telligence and sense of life and power, is delicately and ably illustrated, and the changes of his taste, style, and conception of design, under the influences of time and his contemporaries, are criticized with much subtlety. It is shown that, not to speak of the masters already mentioned, Raphael owed a good deal to both the writings and pictures of Leonardo, to Francia, and other

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The process of studying the pictures with the help of the sketches scattered throughout Europe is applied by our authors to all the examples Raphael produced during the period covered by this volume, that is 1483 to 1508, or from his birth till he had painted the 'Madonna del Baldachino,' and, at Bramante's instigation, was about to leave Florence for Rome. Of course, the value of all this depends in a large measure upon the dates and authenticity of the studies themselves; the pictures have been already severely scrutinized. There can-not, however, be the slightest doubt of the general trustworthiness and fidelity of the criticisms. Still less can doubt exist of the readableness of the chapters which develope the marvellous story of Raphael's life and

It is impossible to do more than give a general idea of the character and aims of a book so elaborate and comprehensive. Phase after phase of Raphael's life is presented to the reader, but none is more brilliant or attractive than that in which Perugino is concerned. As we have already said, our authors think that if the master may be said to have been the first to discover the pupil's genius it is almost equally certain this genius reacted on the master, easy-going and man-nered artist as he had become long before the marvellous boy entered the atelier at Perugia. Vasari was misinformed when, indulging his peculiar sense of the pathetic and picturesque elements of a story, he repeated that G. Santi, "not without many tears from his mother, who loved him tenderly." took the youth to Vannucci, as the best teacher of the age, and that the latter was struck by the lad's manner of drawing, and conceived the highest hopes of his future. We know

that Raphael was barely eleven years old when Santi died, and that the child's mother died three years before Santi. It has been contended by one set of critics that Perugino was not settled at home at this time, and therefore could not have taken in charge so young a pupil until he was again in Perugia (between 1499 and 1502). The master was then at the summit of his reputation, if not at the acme of his practice, and well able to do much for Raphael's benefit, who, be it remembered, was in his native place in the summer of 1499, at which period he might indeed, as some have conceived, have entered the workshop of Perugino at Perugia, having, however, already gathered what he could from other sources open to him. These, it is urged, were sufficiently important, seeing that, although Santi was not a great artist, he was a respectable one, who lived among the princes of his profession, and might well have deserved that the affection of his friends should be extended to his son after death took him from the scene. Timoteo Vite was a likely man to help the boy. He was working under Francia till 1495, when, aged twenty-six, he removed to Urbino, not long after Santi's decease, and in Raphael's twelfth year. It is very probable, some critics think, that Timoteo took the boy by the hand till Vannucci's settling in Perugia

offered a larger opening.
On the other hand, Messrs. Crowe and Cavalcaselle contend, with almost too much eagerness and some excess of subtlety, that (1) Raphael left his home in Urbino when a child, and (2) that he began to take lessons from Perugino at Perugia as early as 1495. It will be remembered that there is no record of what Raphael was about between 1494 and 1504, i.e., during the most plastic part of his existence, from his eleventh till his twenty-second year, a period, by the way, quite long enough to admit of the development of such a genius as his and to allow of the production of all the pictures which have been attributed to him on good grounds. As to Raphael's extreme youth in 1495 unfitting him to be then apprenticed, this objection will not weigh much with those who know what was meant by apprenticeship, and are aware that Fra Bartolommeo was apprenticed to Piero di Cosimo when he was only eight years old. Cennino Cennini has told us that the early years of apprenticeship were devoted to pigment-grinding rather than to painting. In order to dispose of the objections of those who, maintaining that Perugino lived in Florence from 1492 to 1498, consider it improbable, if not impossible, Raphael could have been apprenticed to this master at Perugia in 1495, our authors quote authorities of various kinds to prove that Vannucci was equally at home at Perugia and at Florence, and frequently resided in the former place between 1495 and 1500. He made certain contracts to execute pictures for Perugian employers in 1495. In 1496 he contracted to paint for the auditors of the Cambio, but be it noted he reserved liberty for himself to visit Venice, Fano, and Florence, thus evidently securing opportunities to execute commissions, or to seek them, in any of those cities. He also reserved his right to finish an 'Ascension' for the Benedictines of Perugia which he had previously agreed to paint within two years of March 8th, 1495. In April, 1496, he de-

livered at Florence the frescoes of Sta. Maria de' Pazzi to the Cistercians who had ordered them. He bought land with some of the money thus earned. In 1497 he was again in Florence, where he met Benozzo Gozzoli, Cosimo Rosselli, and Filippino Lippi, and helped them to value the frescoes of Alessio Baldovinetti. In 1497 he finished at Alesso Baldovineth. In 1497 he missed at Perugia a famous altar-piece, with its predella of five pieces, and it was set up at Fano in June of that year. Our authors are obviously right in saying, "Raphael studied that predella and took it as a model for his own masterpieces," and they make good use of the fact.

These dates are beyond challenge, and, even standing alone, they go far to prove the main point of Messrs. Crowe and Cavalcaselle's argument. In 1498 Perugino delivered a 'Virgin and Child' to the brotherhood of Sta. Maria Novella in his own city; and a few months later a 'Madonna and Saints,' "which had doubtless been painted" in Perugia, was displayed in Sta. M. delle Grazie of Sinigaglia. He was summoned to Florence (this shows he did not live there at the time) to discuss the repairs of the lantern of Sta. M. del Fiore of that capital, where shortly afterwards he bought a house. In 1498 he began the frescoes of the Perugian Cambio; he had the first payment for this work in February of the following year, a fact which proves he had been in Perugia for a considerable period immediately before. In the summons to visit Sta. M. del Fiore he is described as "In Florentia degens." It would, therefore, seem certain that Peru-gino had a domicile at Florence and another in Perugia. At the latter place Raphael may have worked, and if the technical proofs adduced by our authors are to be accepted, and we are inclined to accept them, it was in this Perugian house Raphael studied. Long subsequently he used for the predellas of the 'Coronation' in the Vatican the compositions and drawings Perugino had sketched for the predella at Fano during the period in question. All these circumstances, to say no-thing of the alleged reciprocity of influence on the parts of the master and the pupil, go far to establish the opinion of our authors that Raphael was with Perugino long before 1499; they even go so far as to assert with-out reserve that after 1496 a new influence revivified the art of the latter, and that this influence was Raphael's.

In taking leave of the volume we cannot better conclude than in the words of the

writers :-

"No pursuit of more absorbing interest can be conceived than that of following what may be called the trail of a great artist, when, knowing that he passed that way, we still remain un-certain as to the age or the direction of the track. At one time the trail looks broad and worn, at other times it becomes a mere scent, or fades and vanishes altogether. In Raphael's case, as in that of Masaccio or Palmezzano, a great source of difficulty lies in the frequent diversions caused by deceptive cross-scents. Perugino is so like Raphael at one place that we almost doubt the evidence of our senses. Masaccio is so like Masolino that we are lost in a maze of uncertainty. The skill of an expert would be tried to tell where Melozzo ends and Palmezzano begins. But though Raphael and Perugino may at one time blend their forms to confound us, there is a time when each of them has his own prominent distinctness. They both ascend in the orbits which Nature has created for them.

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These orbits cross, and at the point of contact their bodies seem lost in each other. But when they emerge a curious phenomenon appears. Not only is Raphael Peruginesque, but Perugino is Raphaelesque. The work which Perugino accomplishes from 1499 to 1504 is indelibly stamped with the impress of Raphael's genius. That of Raphael from 1502 to 1504 is equally influenced by Perugino's example. Both reveal a constant interchange of thought.....Is it not clear that he [Raphael] enjoyed under Perugino a long and uninterrupted course of artistic training, and that he rose to the station which he occupied in 1502 by measured steps?"

#### ART FOR THE DRAWING-ROOM.

THE most ambitious of the gift-books at present on our table is a very handsomely printed copy of Poe's Raven, with illustrations by the late Gustave Doré, which Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. have published. Mr. E. C. Stedman supplies an essay on the poem. The best of the illustrations represents the woeful poet dashing aside the great portière of the chamber of death, which is haunted by skeleton memories, the "ebony bird," and its terrible shadow. Most of the other designs are mere hackneyed mélodrames of the tritest kind, neednackneyed metourames of the tritest kind, needing no further comment here. To an artist so capable as M. Doré the subjects of these designs offered exceptional opportunities for dealing with intense and effective contrasts of light and shadow; but even in this respect the works too plainly show the exhaustion of what works too plainly show the exhaustion of what was once a splendid genius. Designs not absolutely unworthy of Doré's best days are that which shows the "nightly shore," a misty, moonlit cemetery; and the raven fluttering at the "window lattice" above, where, with funereal grace, cypresses guard the house-door. Another is the "sheeted ghosts" pressing forward between the doors of the chamber. Here the perspective of the doors is absurd. But the light and shade is expressive and attractive, if not of the highest

The Princess, illustrated with neat and pretty landscapes and figure sketches, a few of which are creditable and fairly well designed, but some-what weakly drawn, will be welcome where imagination of a high type and learned design are not indispensable. Maclise's illustrations to the Laureate's miniature epic are not generally satisfactory, although some exhibit real fibre and solid skill. 'The Princess' may yet be fitly illustrated by some rightly inspired and highly accomplished artist. This importation from the United States is issued by Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.

GRAY'S Elegy, the "Artists' Edition" (Philadelphia, Lippincott & Co.; London, Slark), is a very tastefully printed and bound volume. contains a number of designs by Messrs. W. H.
Gibson, H. Bisbing, R. S. Gifford, W. T.
Richards, C. H. Reed, and other book-illustrators
in the United States. The only bad drawing is that of

- the long-drawn aisle and fretted vault, which shows that Mr. J. D. Woodward never saw a Gothic cathedral, although it proves that he has a vivid idea of the pathos of such a building. Nearly all the landscapes are very delicate, their expressiveness is genuine, and some of them are charming, such as that which, on p. 37, shows morning on a devious path, a sloping meadow crowned with trees, and the lofty - flying lark singing in the silvery lustre which almost absorbs his form. Mr. J. F. Murphy designed this pretty cut.

COLERIDGE'S Ancient Mariner, with illustrations by the late David Scott, has been published by Messrs. Nelson & Sons, with a life of the artist, and notices by the Rev. A. L. Simpson. The designs, which are not new to us, are full of vigour, and distinguished by a high and almost passionate sense of the action not less than of the passion of the subjects which they illustrate.

Death and Life-in-Death playing at dice for the crew has all the grim power the tale demands, and a weird grotesqueness which could hardly be overpraised. Certain technical shortcomings, defects of proportion and construction of the figures before us, explain the designer's failure to impress the world as he ought to have An artist whose art is imperfect runs terrible risks of being overlooked. David Scott was, nevertheless, a noble dramatic de-

#### THE FRENCH GALLERY.

THERE are 162 pictures by British and THERE are 162 pictures by British and foreign artists in this collection. The best of them are very good; the worst of them are trivial, but not, on the whole, bad. The following may be noticed. Avant la Procession (No. 26), by M. Chevilliard, the clever satirist of curés and acolytes, shows a Suisse and his collection the weekless with his colleague, a verger, solacing themselves with wine and tobacco in a cloister garth. The artist's firm touch and solid handling do much to redeem a picture which is otherwise metallic and hard, and defective in richness of colour and clearness of tone, while the spontaneity of the design atones for all technical shortcomings.—M. A. Moreau's Japanese Theatricals (30) we saw at the Salon. It will please those who like spirit and vivacious expressions. The faces of the spectators are capital studies of various kinds and degrees of delight in the performance. Though somewhat flimsy, the touch of the painter is brilliant, and his choice of colours gay.—M. de Blaas's During the Carmival (44) depicts a Venetian interior. A family party en fête are disturbed by the entrance of masqueraders, one of whom, an audacious harlequin, presents to the pretty daughter of the house a significant bouquet, and thus rouses the suspicions of the girl's mother, who seems to be indignant because her daughter takes the flowers. All the faces here are good, some of them are pretty. The subject is the least acceptable thing in the picture, except the garish dress of the harlequin. The same painter has sent two capital heads of Venetian damsels in the soft and sweet Cherry Ripe (90), which is thoroughly well drawn and painted with fine skill, and the sentimental Day Dreams (97).

The finest thing here is Corot's Martyrdom of St. Sebastian (57), a large upright picture which was one of the attractions of the Paris International Exhibition of 1867. The time is evening. A pale azure sky, suggestive of rest, is seen between the loftier branches of gigantic trees; it gathers light towards the horizon. On the earth below twilight deepens in contrast with the celestial splendour, and enormous shadows are projected towards us, so that they nearly cover the figures of the dying saint and his attendants in the foreground. Overhead, flying high in the still glowing air, where ruddy gleams distinguish the crown and palms they bear, two boy angels await the uprising of the martyr's soul. Although its half tints are unusually blackish, the pure silvery illumination and the tenderness of the atmo sphere in this picture show the poetic inspiration and the technical power of Corot in a very remarkable manner. - Golden Gloaming (61), a large picture of evening darkening over gloomy pines and still shining waters (136), and Gathering Gloom (54) are three examples by Herr C. Heffner, which betray mannerism in the choice of their subjects and even in their technical qualities. No. 54 shows level waters and meadows extending to a little town and an almost treeless horizon, which meets vast bands of dark grey clouds. No. 136 is remarkable for the splendour of the silvery edges of the clouds, which are seen behind one another as far as the eye can reach, while the clearness of the dark pine wood in the mid-distance is distinctly excellent; the calm and shining water has pathos of its own. The painting is thin and the handling ill supports close examination.

The pool with trees in No. 61 exhibits more abundant and splendid light than the other

Hunting in Poland, the Snowdrift (94), is M. Kleczynski's version, more finished and less dashing, of the somewhat too audacious, yet thoroughly original style of M. Chelmonski, hunter's sledge, drawn by four magnificent horses, is plunging through the high-piled ridge of a snowdrift which the bewildered leaders hardly dare to face, while the wheelers, urged by the driver's merciless lash, trample on the wreaths and gather their strength to proceed. The steeds are splendidly depicted, and designed with rare energy and courage. The delineation of the harness and sledge gear, the weapons and costumes of the figures, deserves attention. The landscape is slight and painty, yet its effect

is good.

In addition to the above we commend to the visitor M. E. Frère's La Petite Tricoteuse (2), an old woman teaching a child to knit while they are seated near a window admitting the soft light, in depicting which the painter is always fortunate. The touch of this picture is nearly equal in firmness to that of M. Frère's best days.—The next example contains Mr. Bartlett's cleverly composed and dexterously painted figures in Returning from Lagoon Fishing, Chioggia (6), including boats at a quay, the forms of the crews being effectively and truthfully opposed to the resplendent sea behind them. Nonplussed (13) is M. Thédy's capital effort in the mode of M. Chevilliard, displaying the cogitations of an old grey friar over the unrepairable condition of his sandals. It is solid and crisply touched.—Mr. B. W. Leader's Summer Time on an English River (20) is a landscape of an attractive, but flimsy and hackneyed character. It is pretty, but as commonplace as chinapainting, and painty to boot, not to say weak.
The A.R.A.ship has not improved the practice of Mr. Leader, which was never profound nor strong.—M. Schloesser repeats the acceptable motive of other pictures in the figure of an old German musician puzzled by the state of a piano which is Out of Tune (39). A clean and finished handling adds merit to the warmth of the colour here.—There is humour of the sadly pathetic sort in Herr A. Müller's Parting with pathetic sort in Herr A. Muller's Pairing with an Old Friend (79), an elderly, quaint-looking amateur selling his violin. The handling, though heavy, is firm; the painting, though dirty, is solid.—Woodcutters in the Weald of Surrey (83) is a glowing, if not rather feverish late work of Linnell's, in which, though there is nothing news of the same of the bearing. is nothing new, a fine sense of style obtains.—
The Gale of the 3rd of September, 1883 (105),
by M. T. Weber, shows, with energy of conception and artistic spirit, tugs attending an injured schooner on a rough sea.—M. Portaels has delineated, with spontaneity which loses little in being rather melodramatic, an impersonation of Jealousy (119) in the sunken eyes, pinched lips, and faded carnations of a once fair young lady who watches the cause of her distress. A capital piece of its kind, this example deserved more searching art.—The Bric-à-brac (161) of M. Benlliure depicts "pots and pans" with rare spirit of touch and splendid colouring, to say nothing of the humour of the figures of an old collector chaffering with a dealer in curiosities, and a manservant heavily laden with purchases.

#### Sine-Art Cossin.

It has been found desirable to postpone the exhibition in situ of the designs prepared for the decoration of the interior of the dome of St. Paul's. The display will take place in April or May next. Mr. Poynter's works are far advanced. They are on a large scale, calculated to show the actual appearance of the designs should they be executed. They comprise large groups of noble figures, such as were represented

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It is probable that a collective and representative exhibition of pictures and drawings by Mr. A. W. Hunt will be formed in Bond Street during the earlier months of next year.

MR. JAMES FAHEY, the much esteemed ex-Mg. James Faher, the much estectued ex-Secretary of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, has resigned the Drawing-Mastership of Merchant Taylors' School, an office he has held for nearly thirty years. The Court of the held for nearly thirty years. The Court of the Company has recognized the value of an old servant's labours by awarding him a pension equal to his full salary.

At a meeting of the Council of the Royal Archæological Institute held on Tuesday, Mr. Hellier Gosselin was elected Secretary, and Mr. St. John Hope editor of the Journal.

THE Mercers' Company has commissioned Mr. P. H. Newman, whose fresco in the church at Belsize Park we described some time ago, to execute some large Scriptural and historical paintings in the chapel of the hall in Ironmonger Lane, which is now in process of restoration, or rather decoration.

A NEW exhibition "inaugurated" itself on Friday (yesterday) in the Conduit Street Galleries, under the title of the "Nineteenth Century Art Society," which has been founded, we are told, "in order to give greater facilities for the exhibition of the works of recognized and rising artists of the English school."

In the gallery of the Fine-Art Society may In the gallery of the Fine-Art Society may be seen, besides a fine body of modern etchings and engravings, a collection of the works of the late Hablôt K. Browne, or "Phiz," 200 in all, and comprising a large proportion of sketches in pencil, drawings in water colours, and pictures in oil. Of the last, the less said the better. Among the water colours there are some unequal landscapes and figures, which, apart from their merits as designs, are weak and insignifi-cant, with touches of pathos and vulgarity. Pathos and vulgarity are by no means incompatible, and their presence side by side in the patible, and their presence side by side in the pencil drawings shows the fitness of the draughtsman to illustrate the analogous qualities of Dickens's writings. Among these examples are the original drawings for 'Bleak House,' 'Dombey and Son,' and 'David Copperfield.' Of the water-colour drawings by far the best is a strangely energetic subject (No. 41) from the Irish legend of the Phooca, or Fairy Horse, a kind of four-legged Robin Goodfellow. The oil nictures and wonochrome drawings do not oil pictures and monochrome drawings do not oil pictures and monochrome drawings do not include the whole of the works in those modes which, as we stated before, Browne contributed to various London exhibitions. Had all his works in these classes been present, the world would not readily have forgotten the wonderful cartoon, 15 by 12 feet, representing 'A Foraging Party of Cæsar's Forces surprised by the Britons,' which hung just above Mr. Armitage's famous 'Cæsar's First Invasion of Britain,' in Westminster Hall just forty years age. In the Westminster Hall just forty years ago. In the same gathering of cartoons was another design by Browne, entitled 'Henry II. defied by a Welsh Mountaineer, a design as energetic and vigorous as its companion, and, like it, liney, crude, and harsh in execution, but, on the whole, among the most masculine and original of the "cartoons," although they comprised remarkable works by the unhappy Dadd, P. F. Poole, D. Scott, W. B. Scott, H. T. Townshend ('The Fight for the Beacon'), Armitage, Watts, Burton, and J. C. Hook.

At the general meeting of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, held last week, Mr. J. W. Clark, the new President, delivered an excellent address, in which he called attention to the light that would be thrown on the history of the sculptured stones in Lothian, and also on some recently discovered in the north of England.

Among the edifying pictures destined for the next Salon is a vast example displaying in life-size figures the 'Massacre de Marchecoul,' a terrible act of Vendean vengeance perpetrated under the orders of Charette upon the Repubunder the orders of Charette upon the Republican soldiers who had been surprised and captured by the Chouans. M. F. Flameng, who delineated the capture of the Bastille, is the author of a picture which is said to exhibit "reactionary" atrocities with exceptional energy.

The Collection Suermondt, a renowned gather-

The Collection Suermondt, a renowned gathering of old pictures, which the owner has generously bestowed on his native city of Aix-la-Chapelle, was opened to the public on the 20th ult. It contains in all 160 works, mostly of choice character, quality, and condition, including the famous sketch of the 'Chute des Réprouvés' ('Descent of the Damned'), by Rubens, and the 'Coq et le Joyau,' by the same; a 'Rabbi,' by Rembrandt; 'Portrait of a Young Woman,' by C. de Vos; 'Marguerite Haeber,' by A. More; and pictures by Bol, Brekelencamp, Brauwer, Cuyp, Van Dyck, Flick, F. Hals, De Hooghe, Van Huysum, Van der Meer, Van Ostade, Palamedez Palamedes, Ruysdael, Jan Steen, Zurbaran, and Constable.

The Tour de Clovis—ascribed to the king of that name, enclosed by the buildings of the Lycée Henri IV., and one of the most interesting remains of ancient Paris—having been allowed to fall into a deplorable state of disrepair, is to be renovated at a cost of 15,000 france.

francs.

THE death is announced of Albert Hendschel, the German caricaturist. He was a son of the publisher of the Telegraph, the German Brad-

#### MUSIC

#### THE WEEK.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concerts. St. James's Hall.—The Richter Concerts.

THE programme of last Saturday's Crystal Palace concert was a curiosity in its way, being formed chiefly of pieces by those musicians who have received the honour of knighthood during the present reign. Of the eight names included two were foreigners by birth, Sir Michael Costa and Sir Julius Benedict, while two musical knights were unrepresented, namely, Sir John Goss and Sir George Elvey. In order to render the performance as diversified as necessity requires, it was impossible to select an important work by every composer, and the largest share of honour was accorded to Sir George Macfarren, whose Symphony in E minor was given for the first time at the Crystal Palace. The work was produced by the short-lived British Orchestral Society on March 26th, 1874, and, so far as we are aware, was not heard again until last Saturday. It therefore possessed the interest of a novelty, and it would be agreeable to be able to declare that musical societies have done themselves an injustice by the neglect of the symphony. Unfortunately the work as a whole leaves but little impression on the mind, in spite of much that is admirable in matters of detail. The opening of the first allegro arrests the attention at once by the breadth and vigour of the writing, and the principal theme of the Serenade in c is extremely attractive; but the effect of each of these movements is seriously injured by the monotony of the tone colour employed. The composer is conservative in his theories of orchestration, University by the publication of the early grace-books and account-books, of Dr. Caius's annals of his college, and other unprinted sources. Mr. G. F. Browne read a valuable paper on

facilities because other writers have abused them. This remark applies to the brass instruments; but even the scoring for the wood wind is remarkable for its simplicity, especially in the first movement. The violins are kept at work with scarcely an instant's intermission, and at times the effect is that of a treble and bass duet. The gavotte, which stands in place of a scherzo, and the finale are clear, straightforward movements, and create a generally pleasing impression. For the sake of its distinguished composer, who by general consent occupies the foremost place in the ranks of contemporary English musicians, the Symphony in E minor was heard with the closest attention; but only by those determined to be complimentary at the expense of truth could an opinion be expressed favourable to its chances of longevity. Sir R. P. Stewart's overture 'The Eve of St. John' is an agreeable piece of programme music, fairly correct as to form and well scored. Sir Herbert Oakeley's 'Edinburgh' March is only a pièce d'occasion of no significance. Bennett was represented by his fantaisie-overture 'Paradise and the Peri'; and Sullivan by his overture 'Di Ballo.' By way of contrast to the composi-tions of musical knights, Mr. Edward Howell, one of the best of English violoncello players, brought forward Goltermann's third Concerto in B minor for the instrument. We noticed the words "His first appearance here" written after Mr. Howell's name. This serves as a reminder how seldom it is that English instrumentalists are permitted the opportunity of appearing as soloists. We have in our best orchestras, and especially in that of the Crystal Palace, executants who could fairly hold their own against continental artists, but they have little incentive save their own inclination to study solo playing. Another very successful first appearance was made by Miss Hilda Coward, whose bright soprano voice is rapidly increasing in volume. Miss Coward's obvious intelligence and her admirable delivery promise to secure for her a high position among vocalists. Madame Patey also conamong vocanists. Matanine 1 arey airs contributed a couple of songs. To-day being the eve of the anniversary of Mendelssohn's death, the programme will be chiefly formed of the works of that master.

The musical public owes a debt of gratitude to Herr Richter for visiting London at this season, when so little high-class music is to be heard. The Viennese conductor has a firmly established position among us, and the protracted greeting he received at the hands of a crowded audience last Monday afforded testimony in favour of this fact. At the same time it is not too soon to give utterance to a word of warning lest the art significance of the Richter Concerts should pale in consequence of the adoption of a safe though timid policy. Experience has shown that the music of Beethoven and Wagner is more attractive than that of other composers under Herr Richter, and to this it may be added that he appears to be most at home in the works of the masters named. But the constant repetition of the same pieces must inevitably produce a feeling of satiety at last, and it may then be too late to initiate the required reforms. The

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little freshness into the programmes of the present series of three concerts, either in the way of actual novelties or revivals, would have removed an uncomfortable suspicion that the undertaking is degenerating into a mere commercial enterprise. Having fulfilled a critical duty in drawing attention to this matter, let us hasten to admit that the performance on Monday was superb, every item being rendered with marvellous unity of expression. This perfect ensemble, which constitutes one of the greatest charms of the playing under Herr Richter, was especially noticeable in the introduction to the third act of 'Die Meistersinger.' The conductor accepted an encore for this excerpt, but wisely declined one for the 'Walkürenritt.' Brahms's clever and spirited 'Akademische' Overture and Wagner's 'Huldigung's March' completed the first part, and Beethoven's 'Pastoral' Symphony was afterwards given, in what manner need not be

#### Musical Cossip.

THE new comic opera 'Falka,' produced at the Comedy Theatre on Monday evening, is a fair, if not a brilliant, example of this description of work. Mr. Farnie's adaptation of Messrs. Leterrier and Vanloo's libretto is bright and amusing until the third act, when it flags extremely. The composer, M. F. Chassaigne, is a young musician, but he is quite equal to the task of writing pretty tunes and scoring them correctly. It would be idle to look for individuality in light comic opera, as every conceivable device within the limits imposed on the composer must have been exhausted. In saying that he has steered clear of vulgarity and that his music is refined and graceful rather than pretentious we are giving M. Chassaigne the highest praise it is possible to bestow at present. Among the experienced performers Miss Violet Cameron, Miss Wadman, Mr. Kelleher, Mr. Penley, and Mr. W. H. Hamilton merit commendation, and Miss Louise Henschel, a débutante, acquitted herself so well in a small part as to warrant the idea that she is qualified for more important work.

In some respects the performance of Dr. Stainer's cantata 'St. Mary Magdalen' at the Bow and Bromley Institute on Tuesday was one of remarkable excellence. Mr. McNaught's choir is a body of singers evidently capable of rendering a good account of themselves in any work, however arduous. They rendered the choral numbers in a manner betokening easy confi-dence, the attack being precise and homogeneous, and the general interpretation free from slips of any kind. In order to secure a perfect balance the altos and tenors need some reinforcement. The sopranos and basses are splendid, and over-power the other sections of the choir. As a matter of course the fullest justice was rendered to the solos by such artists as Miss Mary Davies, Miss Hilda Wilson, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. F. King, and the only point calling for censure was the extremely inaccurate playing of the orchestra. The material was excellent; but an understanding had not been established between the players and the conductor, and the result at times was direful confusion. This could surely have been obviated by a little care at rehearsal.

Mr. Charles Halle commenced the twenty-MR. CHARLES HALLE commenced the twenty-sixth season of his concerts at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, last Thursday week, when the chief works brought forward were the 'Pastoral' Symphony, the Overtures to 'Der Freischütz' and 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' Dvorák's Second Slavonian Rhapsody, and Mendelssohn's Serenade and Allegro Giojoso, played by Mr. Halle. Last Thursday Gounod's 'Re-

demption' was performed for the first time at these concerts.

HERR RICHTER is announced to give a concert at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, next Wednesday evening, the programme consisting of a selection from the works of Wagner and the Eroica' Symphony.

Berlioz's great 'Te Deum,' which was produced at the church of Saint Eustache, Paris, in 1855, under the direction of its composer, and has never been heard since, is to be performed in the Cathedral of Bordeaux on the 5th of December next. The band and chorus are to number 1,000.

Two new operas were produced in Paris last week, 'Madame Boniface,' by M. Lacome, at the Bouffes Parisiens, and 'Le Roi du Carreau,' by M. de Lajarte, at the Théâtre des Nouveautés. Both are favourably spoken of.

It is stated that Liszt has decided to publish the great 'Pianoforte School' on which he has been at work all his life. It will occupy three large volumes.

THE well-known publishing firm of C. F. Peters, in Leipzig, are preparing a critically revised edition of the complete songs of Franz

THE Argentina Theatre at Rome is to be shortly opened for a season of opera. 'Mignon' shortly opened for a season of opera. 'Mignon' is the first work to be given; and among other operas which it is intended to produce are Delibes's 'Lakmé,' Bizet's 'Carmen' (a novelty at Rome), Halévy's 'La Reine de Chypre,' Giovannin's 'Tito Vezio,' and a new opera, 'Il Conte di Gleichen,' by Signor Auteri.

#### DRAMA

#### THE WEEK.

LYCEUM. - Performances of Miss Mary Ander.on: Revival of 'The Lady of Lyons.'

MISS ANDERSON'S performance of Pauline in 'The Lady of Lyons' enables us approximately to gauge her powers. That she has distinct capacity for serious drama; that she may win a popular verdict in characters which, like Juliet, Pauline, and Julia in 'The Hunchback,' have come to be regarded as tests; and that she is possessor of a method which, while capable of improvement, is eminently serviceable, is manifest. So far, however, no sign of tragic force is exhibited, and the gifts of the actress seem likely to be of chief service in comedy. Though destitute neither of earnestness nor passion, her Pauline moves the admiration rather than stirs the heart. In what with the greatest of past actresses seemed the strongest situations it was almost weak, and it stirred the public most in the scenes of the fourth act, in which indignation melts into tenderness and the wronged woman, oblivious of the insults she has received, seeks to share the fallen fortunes of her lover. In Pauline, as in Parthenia, the idea left in the mind of the spectator is that of beauty-not, of course, mere physical grace, of which Miss Anderson has a rare gift, but the beauty that springs from harmony or symmetry in art. Successive pictures were full of grace, and the scenes of wooing were delightful. Even in the supreme moment of the third act, in which the bride learns how foully she has been wronged, her moods of mortification and anger are evanescent, and her voice subsides into a murmur which is almost a caress. That the art to conceal art is not mastered, and that a sense of want of spontaneity is conveyed, must also be con-

With all these drawbacks, however, ceded. her Pauline is a captivating performance and the new-comer has to be welcomed as an actress of high mark. It is to be regretted that the class of characters she seems to affect belong wholly to serious drama. In imaginative comedy she is capable of rendering highest service, and she seems an almost ideal representative of the tenderest Shakspearean conceptions. The description of Desdemona supplied by Cassio in answer to the cynical suggestions of Iago fits her to a nicety, and a character like Miranda or Rosalind, or even Isabella, might almost have been designed in expectation of her coming. A strong hold was taken upon the public, and the reception accorded to Miss Anderson at the close of the fourth act was enthusiastic.

Much pains had been taken in securing competent support, and actors of repute been obtained for the principal characters. Mr. Farren, specially engaged, played Col. Damas, Mr. W. Archer was secured for Beauseant, Mrs. Arthur Stirling for Madame Deschappelles, Mrs. Billington for Widow Melnotte, Mr. W. H. Stephens for Deschappelles, and Mr. Irish for the landlord. No one of these actors was seen at his best, and the feeling generally inspired was disappointment. The Claude Melnotte of Mr. Barnes is not comparable to his Ingomar. It is monoto-nously loud and altogether wanting in variety. In contrast with the tameness generally exhibited is the fire of Mr. Anderson in the character of Gaspard. This young actor, whom we do not remember to have previously seen, has apparently a future before

#### Dramatic Cossip.

THE appearance of Miss Mary Anderson in Mr. Gilbert's 'Pygmalion and Galatea' is fixed for next month. The performance will be prefaced by a representation of a one-act drama of serious interest, in the construction of which Mr. Gilbert is at present occupied.

A DRAMA by Mr. George Roy, played last Saturday afternoon at the Imperial Theatre, under the title of 'Bonnie Prince Charlie,' obtained a favourable reception. Nothing in the piece or in the performance has interest for the general public or calls for serious criticism.

MISS ALMA MURRAY will, it is said, play the heroine in the forthcoming production at the Olympic of Mr. Pettitt's drama 'The Spider's

'CLAUDIAN' is, it is stated, the title of the new drama of Messrs. Wills and Herman in preparation at the Princess's Theatre.

'AGNES OF BAVARIA' is the title of a drama founded by Mr. Frederick Hawley upon an event in Bavarian history, and produced on Wednesday afternoon at the Gaiety. It is a weak produc-tion, but furnishes opportunity for the display of some excellent acting by Miss Lingard as the

A MARBLE plaque has been placed on the house No. 9, Rue de la Tour-des-Dames, bearing the inscription, "Talma, né à Paris le 15 janvier, 1763, est mort dans cette maison le 19 octobre, 1826."

To Correspondents.—T. B.—C. L. J.—P. H. N.—C. S. L. -M. & H.—J. A. E.—M. A. W.—R. W. S.—received. R. E.—Many thanks, but we had already a paragraph

R. C.-Next week. No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. 3, '83 wever. nance

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